CIRCULATION LAST WEEK, 118,000.

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WEEKLY TOLEDO BLADE

THE NEW BLADE Sewing Machine

See Fifth Page.

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Poetry.

IKE.

He quiet ways an' honest look
Was all the diggin's at the start;
His blue eyes seemed an open book
In which we read his guileless heart.
He first showed up at Pincer Mound
Jes' after that big '80 strike,
An' unobtrusive loafed around,
All unconcerned an' quiet like.

Some thought he war a millionaire
From Frisco, lookin' up a claim,
Whilst others said he had the air
Of some revival gospel chap.
The boys soon tied him to the name
Of "Reverend Sanctimonious Ike,"
Jes' cause he played the pious game,
So unconcerned an' quiet like.

He nursed the sicky spoke words o' cheer
To them as 'ras'led with despair,
An' at the bed 'o pain you'd hear
His low, sad voice in earnest prayer.
No matter what distress war found,
You'd see thar Sanctimonious Ike,
Jes' like an angel movin' 'round,
All unconcerned an' quiet like.

One night the safe in which war kept
The dust of all the men in camp
War busted open while we slept,
By some durned, ornery, thievin' scamp.
We took what remain'n' quick,
An' soon struck Sanctimonious Ike
Leadin' a pack mule down the creek,
All unconcerned an' quiet like.

We found the stuff, a Judge was chose,
An' war beneath a jackoak tree,
The court convened, an' w'en it rose,
We took the back trail quietly.
As up the mountain side we clim,
We took a backward glance at Ike,
A hangin' from a jackoak limb,
All unconcerned an' quiet like.
—Capt. Jack Crawford in New York Clipper.

WINTER MUSINGS.

The grass has ceased its growing,
And the chilly winds are blowing,
And it's getting time for snowing
As we get our ulsters out.
Soon the sleigh bells will be ringing;
We can hear the snow birds singing;
And the icicles are clinging
To the whitened water spout.

Where the old-time lovers flirted,
The groves have been deserted,
And their sparks are now concerted
In the parlor by the grate.
The hunter's deer are stalking,
And the tramp is southward walking;
And the sewing circle's talking
Puts their victims in a state.

The plumber now is plumbing,
And the old-clothes man is humming
At the garments that are coming
From the wells of summer days.
The weather vanes are jerky,
And the sky is getting murky,
And the plump and pampered turkey
Sees the error of his ways.

But though the air is freezing
And it gives us fits of sneezing,
Yet we're filled with thoughts most pleasing
As we ope the closet door.
For ever since September
We have vowed it, and remember
That the suit of last December
We can wear a season more.
—[Clothier and Furnisher.

"AND 'TIS TIME HE WAS DEAD."

The world was made when a man was born:
He must taste for himself the forbidden springs;
He can never take warning from old-fashioned things;
He must eat as a boy, he must drink as a youth,
He must kiss, he must love, he must swear to the truth
Of the friend of his soul, he must laugh to scorn
The hint of deceit in a woman's eyes
That are clear as the wells of Paradise.

And so he goes on till the world grows old,
Till his tongue has grown cautious, his heart has grown cold,
Till the smile leaves his mouth, and the ring leaves his laugh,
And he shirks the bright headache you ask him to quaff;
He grows formal with men, and with women polite,
And distrustful of both when they're out of his sight;
Then he eats for his palate, and drinks for his head,
And loves for his pleasure,—and 'tis time he was dead.
—[John Boyle O'Reilly.

AT THE PRINT SHOP WINDOW.

O, mystical apparition
From an era far away,
What is your sentimission
In the crowded street to-day?

Do you come to show the sweetness
Of a woman's clinging fears?
The charm of her incompleteness?
The magic of her tears?

Do you scorn our modern learning,
With your vaguely dreaming smile?
Do you say that love is turning
Away from us, meanwhile?

What riddles are you giving?
Tell us the answer, tell!
Say if you're breathing, living,
Or only an old pastel?
—[Galignani's Messenger.

THERE WAS A MAN.

There was a man was half a clown,
He may father tells of it!
He saw the church in Clermont town
And laughed to hear the bells of it.

He laughed to hear the bells that ring
In Clermont church and round of it;
He heard the verger's daughter sing
And loved her for the sound of it.

The verger's daughter said him nay;
She had the right of choice in it.
He left the place at break of day;
He hadn't had a voice in it.

The road went up, the road went down,
And there the matter ended it;
He broke his heart in Clermont town;
At Pontebaud they mended it.
—[Hilaire Belloc, in St. Nicholas.

Miscellany.

Marshall Wilder's Jests.

The Talmage Wedding—Two Views of Heaven—A New Thirst Slaker—Working Politicians—Why the Clock Should Stop.

[Copyright 1891.]

"Time to me a truth has taught,
"Tis truth that's worth revealing:
More offend from want of thought
Than from any want of feeling."

Dr. Talmage invited me the other day to the wedding of his daughter in Brooklyn. I always, as a rule, hate to go wedings or funerals. But I went over to Dr. Talmage's house and laid my plans as I generally do when I go to Brooklyn. I took with me a chart of the locality, as travelers generally do when they are making a journey through Switzerland. I find that as a general rule a visitor to Brooklyn is always sure of one thing; the cars all land at Greenwood cemetery. I arrived at the house a little before the ceremony at the church was over, and found a number of people already there. But up stairs where the presents were, there were very few people; so I thought that there was my chance. While I was looking over the different presents, I noticed that the detective who was there kept an eye on me, and I thought possibly he, living in Brooklyn, did not know who I was. But pretty soon others soon came in and began eyeing me. I am accustomed to be eyed, yet this seemed rather strange. Finally I said to myself, "There must be something wrong," and on examination I found that my time having been so limited in getting ready to go to Brooklyn, I had neglected to change my trousers. There I was; dress coat, vest and dress shoes, but everyday trousers. I am sure that would never have happened at any other place but at Dr. Talmage's church or home.

Talking of weddings, do you know when two become one? The newly married man answered this by saying: "My wife is one, and I am one, so we two are one."

Speaking of Dr. Talmage reminds me of two other ministers—though each has a special title of his own. They are Bishop Potter and Rabbi Gottheil, who, I am told, are very close friends in spite of some differences of opinion, and who persistently poke jokes at one another. They take their constitutional walks in Central Park, where they are quite likely to meet and compare notes. Here is the latest report of their conversation:

"Ah, Rabbi," says the bishop, cordially, "glad to see you looking so well, Rabbi. I had a dream last night, and was just thinking about it. I dreamed that I died and went to the gate of heaven where I met Peter, and, just as I anticipated, he welcomed me with open arms and announced to me that my home in the Protestant heaven was all ready for me. Something in the expression struck me as being singular, so I asked him if there was anything but a Protestant heaven, and he replied that there was also a Jewish heaven. Somewhat surprised, as you may imagine, Rabbi, I asked him if I could take a peep in the Jewish heaven before I went to my home in the Protestant heaven. He said that I might, so I went there and looked in, Rabbi."

"Yah, yah," said the Rabbi, in his charming broken English, as he delightedly rubbed his hands, and a benevolent smile overspread his face, "Yah, Bishop! Und vot did you see, Bishop?"

"Well, Rabbi, I saw a great host of old men with long, gray beards, walking solemnly around in grave silence and with sad faces—but NO WOMEN, Rabbi—no women! You know there are no women in your religion!" said the bishop.

The rabbi bowed his head reflectively, kept silence for a moment and then said:

"Vhat vos very queer, bishop; but I had a dream like dot mineself."

"Ah, indeed," remarked the bishop, interested at once.

"Yah, I died und vent to heaven, yoost as you did, Bishop, und Peter he say my home vos ready for me in the Jewish heaven, und it struck me so queer I wanted to know if there vos anodder heaven, und he say yes, dere vos der Brotestant heaven, und I asked him if I could take a squint in der Brotestant heaven, und he says yes, und so I goes dere—"

"Yes, Rabbi," interrupted the bishop impatiently, "and what did you see, Rabbi?"

"Vot did I see?" answered the rabbi, gravely, "vot did I see? I saw noddings, Bishop—der place was empty."

Some bar keepers are decided characters. I never try their mixtures, but I do enjoy their chaff. They were quite as influential as any of the politicians in the last campaign, and had the politician's genius for being all things to all men for the sake of getting votes or selling drinks. Each one of them tolerates one particular lounger who never is kicked out when his money is gone. In a certain saloon down on West street, New York, where different heelers and politicians assemble, there is a lounger known as "Old Sport." Of all the men who sit around to be treated, he is one of the most constant. He generally sits in a corner of the saloon on a beer keg and has but little to say, except in reply to the invitation "Come, boys, let's have a drink." Just before election, in came Mr. Duffy. The bartender said:

"Good morning, Mr. Duffy."

"Good morning, Mike; glad to see you. I came down to tell you that I am the Democratic nominee for alderman for this district and I thought I would come down and see the boys, I heard they had something agin' me."

"Oh, faith, Mr. Duffy, agin' you? Not a ting. Why, upon my word, before any man down here would say agin' you, I would cut off my right hand."

"Well, come on," said the candidate, "let's have a drink." Everybody jumps up, including "Old Sport." After the drink, out goes Mr. Duffy. A little later Mr. Robinson comes in and says:

"Good morning, Mike. I am running as Republican candidate for alderman in this district and I thought I would come down here and see how the boys are feeling."

"Oh, to be sure, Mr. Robinson, all the boys are wid you to a man. Rather than to have any man agin' you I'd lose my left arm sure."

So the candidate offers a drink, and "Old Sport" takes one with the rest. Finally another man comes in and says:

"Good morning, Mike."

"Good morning, Mr. Kennedy, says the other, "what brings you down here?"

"Oh." says the visitor, "I am running on the Prohibition ticket and I thought I would see how the boys are going to vote."

"The boys are wid you, sure," says the bartender, "you know they are; why, we came from the same county. Rather than have a man agin' you, I'd lose my two legs."

"All right," says the Prohibitionsit, "I'm glad you are with me."

"Old Sport" takes his medicine with the rest and then resumes his chair in the corner and smokes in silence. After the candidates and everybody else have gone, he turns to Mike and begs a drink "for the love of God, as you are going to be a cripple, anyhow."

At another time when the bystanders were talking about the immense wealth of Mr. Gould and Mr. Vanderbilt, and saying that every time the clock ticked it added another dollar to the fortunes of those millionaires, "Old Sport" became very much excited, and, jumping up, wildly shouted, "for God's sake stop the clock."

The wife of Mike, the bartender, was a very sympathetic woman. The other day she met Mrs. Kennedy on the street, and, stopping her said:

"Good morning, Mrs. Kennedy. How is your husband?"

"Oh," replied the other, "poor Mike, he is a perfect martyr to delirium tremens."

It takes all sorts of people to a make a world.

Merrily yours,
MARSHALL P. WILDER.

SUPPOSED TO BE FUNNY.

Revivalist—Don't you ever feel a yearning for something higher than the mere things of this earth?

Jags—Not much. I have lived on the top floor of a 12-story flat, and the elevator stops running at 10 o'clock.—[Brooklyn Eagle.

How fortunate the oyster is!
The dollars he can scoop;
But although the church fair gets him,
He's never "in the soup."
—[Atlanta Constitution.

Wagg—Smith, the baker, is a very scholarly person.

Quigley—Why so?

Wagg—He has a sign over his pie counter, "Such stuff as dreams are made of."—[Harper's Bazar.

He stood and looked at the steam roller that was working on the asphalt.

"Great thing, ain't it?" said a bystander.

"Great nothing!" was the reply. "You must be powerful slow in these parts. Why, out to Slam Center they'd shoot an engineer that couldn't go no faster'n that."—[Washington Star.

A blizzard swept down from the far Northwest,
From the far Northwest, as the sun went down,
And the men were filled with a vague unrest
Who sat in their offices far down-town.
For well they knew that the night was drear,
And they'd have to tramp through the shrieking gust,
For a cable may run for a solid year,
But when the weather is worst it is sure to bust.
—[Chicago Tribune.

Amy—Papa, dear, Mr. Hunker says he loves the ground I walk on.

Papa—No doubt, my daughter. Young Hunker wants the earth.—[Smith, Gray & Co.'s Monthly.

"There goes poor Jones—bankrupt ever since his trial."

"Did he break the law?"

"No; the law broke him,"—[Christmas Puck.

Here the comic opera jester as he struts
upon the stage,
With his merry whiskered jokelets that were
years ago the rage;
Watch the autumn branches changing red to
golden hues, and then
Murmur sadly, softly, sweetly, "Chestnut
time has come again!"
—[New York Herald.

Mrs. O'Hara—It is in great trouble of am. Me husband has been sint to jail.

Mrs. O'Toole—Shure and it's nothing you have to complain av. Moi husband gets out av jail nixt wake. Ochone! ochone.—[Harper's Bazar.

MR. MILLS'S BOY CHARLEY.

"Eli Perkins" Teaches the Boy What Northern Education Will Do.

Melville D. Landon, of New York, better known as "Eli Perkins," was in the city last evening on his way to Vermillion, where he lectured last night before the students of the University of South Dakota, says the Sioux City *Journal*. A *Journal* reporter encountered the humorist at the train and spent the 40 minutes of his wait in his company. When asked to relate something fresh in his Western experience, he said:

"On the Omaha train for Sioux City to-day was Congressman Mills, of Texas. With him was his bright little boy, who had been in a Minneapolis school. The little fellow was as bright as his father, but did not seem to know anything about the fallacies of politics. He was ready to answer all questions, and his astuteness astonished even his father.

"I asked Mr. Mills if I might ask the little fellow some questions and note his quick school boy answers.

"'Certainly,' said the genial congressman, 'go ahead and you will find Charley bright enough to answer anything.'

"'And you won't interrupt us?' I asked.

"'Certainly not.'

"'Now, Charley,' I said, calling the bright little fellow up to me, 'I'm going to ask some hard questions, harder than cube root, and I don't believe a little fellow 12-year-old like you can answer them.'

"'I reckon I can,' said the proud little Texan.

"'Well, Charley, I said, 'if you lived in a town where all the people sent over to the next town to buy all their things, what would be the effect?'

"'Why,' said Charley, 'our merchants would all be poor, for all our money would go away, wouldn't it? We'd all be poor, sure.'

"'Right, Charley,' I said. 'Now, how would it affect a nation that was digging $100,000,000 out of the ground every year and raising $3,000,000 worth of cotton and $100,000,000 worth of wheat if it sent this gold and cotton and wheat over to other nations and traded them for store pay like gloves and silks and linen and tin and sugar?'

"'Why, we'd be poor like the town, of course.'

"'Yes, Charley,' I said. 'But suppose our nation made its own sugar and linen and tin and wine and kept its $100,000,000 dug out of the mountains and sold its tobacco and cotton for gold?'

"'Why, it would make our nation awful rich, wouldn't it?' said Charley.

"'Yes, my boy,' I said. 'it would.'

"'Again, Charley, suppose our country had kept $100,000,000 of gold and sold over $300,000,000 worth of cotton and wheat and tobacco for money for thirty years, how much wealth would we have in this country?'

"'Why, Charley, figuring on a piece of paper, 'we would have $4,000,000,000. But why did we keep it? Why didn't we manufacture our own things? Ain't we never going to manufacture them?'

"'Yes,' I said, 'we are trying to now. Now Charley,' I continued, 'suppose they are paying 60 cents per day to poor laborers in Europe for making knives and silk cloth and tin, and the freight from Europe is only 10 cents a hundred, and our workmen are making $3 a day here, what would our workmen do if we had free trade.'

"'Why, they would have to work for the same wages that they do in Europe plus the freights. Of course any one can see that, can't they father?' and Charley looked up at the father of the Mills bill.

"'But, Charley, if we put on a protective tariff of about 50 per cent against these European things made by cheap labor, how would that affect our laboring men?'

"'Why, we could pay them more wages, of course; that's plain as day.'

"'Then, Charley, what do we gain by putting on a protective tariff against European manufacturers?'

"'Why, then we have to make them here. We pay big wages and keep our money home; any fool can see that, can't they, pa?'

"'Here, Charley,' said Congressman Mills, taking off his glasses and wiping them with an American bandana, 'let me ask you a question now.'

"'Don't you see all the pauper laborers of Europe coming over here, Charley? Now, my son, how can we keep them back?'

"'Why, papa, we could take off this tariff, couldn't we, and then our wages would go down as low as theirs, our factories would stop, and their factories would start up, and they wouldn't want to come here, would they? They wouldn't want to come here, papa, if our wages weren't higher than their's, would they?'

"Mr. Mills didn't answer, but went into the smoking car to think.

"While he was gone I asked Charley what he thought would be the effect of putting a tariff of 25 cents against the wheat, corn, rye, oats barley and potatoes raised in Canada, in a country twelve times as large as Dakota.

"'It will keep that stuff back, won't it?' said Charley, 'and raise the price here?'

"'And how will that affect the price of land, Charley?'

"'Why, better prices for wheat would make that go up, too, and I heard a farmer telling papa this morning that the land all over Iowa and Dakota and Illinois was going up fast. Is it?'

"'Yes, Charley, it is,' I said. 'The farmer is getting on top again. Thousands of manufacturers are making sugar, silk, chicory, linen, tin, glass and pottery. They are moving over from Europe and soon our manufacturers will eat up all our surplus wheat and then what, Charley?'

"'Well, I guess they'll have to pay a good price for it in gold, too, by ginger! and that will make the farmer rich, won't it? And so we will have lots of gold and lots of manufacturers, everybody will be prosperous, wages will be high, competition will make manufactured articles cheap, and we will be a great country, won't we?'

"'You bet we will, Charley,' I said, 'and when you get to be a man, if you are as sound on these questions as you are now, we will make you speaker of the House.'

"Mr. Mills now came in and said: 'I must take Charley back to Corsicana. Those Northern school boys talk and think too much.'"

Eli Perkins will return to Sioux City from Vermillion and go out in Nebraska to-morrow.

Teach Them to Smoke Cigarettes.

"We are growing less romatic," said the girl who reads; "but we are also growing better, perhaps. You seldom hear of attempts by guardians to slay the heirs to large estates."

"The guardians doesn't have to slay them," replied the practical young man; "he merely teaches them to smoke cigarettes."

An Innovation.

Hunker—What do you suppose Miss Flipp said when I asked her to marry me?

Spatts—I suppose she said, "O, George! this is so sudden!"

Hunker—No; she said: "I've been expecting you to propose for three months."—[Epoch.

He Ought to Know.

When Dr. Wyland was president of Brown university, a student of philosophy once said to him: "Doctor, I don't believe I have any soul." "Possibly not, possibly not, young man," said the doctor. "You ought to know. I know I have. Good day, sir."

A Business Misconception.

Bill Runner (having measure taken for a pair of shoes)—Do you think you can make this pair of shoes last?

Peggs (the shoemaker)—Oh, yes; I think so. And possibly not at all, unless you care to pay in advance.—[Puck.

The Reason Why.

Penelope—There, uncle, that makes two hundred and seventeen presents. Aren't they lovely?

Her Uncle—My dear, I think I now understand why we are told that in heaven there is to be no giving in marriage.

Our Serial Story.

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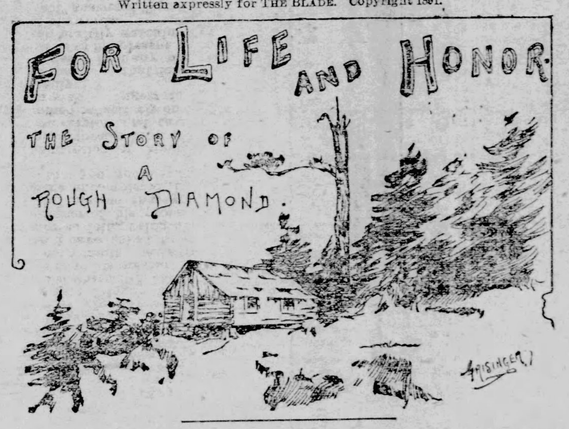


CHAPTER XXVII.

IRMA IS FRUND.

That night Detective Tipton proceeded by train to Rosita, it being understood that the next morning the prisoner, George Tempest, would be removed thither. Colonel Vandeveer and Harry had arranged to accompany him, taking with them the lawyers they had engaged in the case. These gentlemen had at first demurred at making the journey at that juncture, preferring that George should waive the preliminary examination, so as to give them time to prepare their case for the trial before the regular court; but after the detective had a brief private interview with them, they waived all objections and prepared to go at once.

Mr. Tipton spent the earlier part of his journey in a patient study of his notebook and various memoranda of the case, having taken a seat close by one of the car lamps in order to give him sufficient light. He was mistaken by more than one of his fellow-passengers for a priest intent upon his breviary, so closely did he apply himself to his notebook.

The fact was that the detective had formulated a theory of the murder, and could he but obtain the one witness desired, he felt an inward confidence that he should triumphantly acquit his client at the preliminary hearing, without compelling him to undergo an imprisonment of several weeks to await the next term of court.

This missing witness was Irma Montaldo. He felt convinced after hearing George Tempest's story, that if this girl did not actually know who was the murderer, that she had knowledge of a clue which would put him on the right track.

"She does know, she must know!" said he to himself emphatically as he closed his memorandum book with a snap and returned it to his pocket. "But where can I find her? If I could but put my finger upon the girl, I would then have two strings to my bow. She could tell me without compulsion all that she knows, or will find her if I can; if I cannot, then, Jim Shanks must tell me." So saying to himself, Mr. Tipton signified to the porter that he was ready to have his berth made up; and as soon as this was done he turned in and slept the sleep of the just until he was roused by that functionary just as the train was nearing Rosita.

The day was a busy one to Mr. Tipton. He first set out to find some trace of Irma Montaldo. It was futile. There were many among the residents of the town, especially those of Mexican descent, who had known the family well, but not one of them could give him the slightest clue to their present whereabouts. Mr. Tipton walked along the street, reflecting deeply. He stood on the corner of Main street, and gazed first up the street to the hotel, and then down toward the banking house that had formerly been Mr. Tempest's. "It is a bluff game, but I think that I must try it," he said to himself, and then bent his steps in the latter direction. He reached the bank made memorable by the terrible tragedy which had taken place within its walls, and entering, asked the clerk if there was a gentleman named Bernstein within. His sharp eye, of course, had seen the latter in the rear room as soon as he entered, but for reasons of his own he preferred to appear ignorant of that gentleman's presence.

"Certainly, sir," responded the clerk. "Mr. Bernstein, a gentleman wishes to speak to you."

Bernstein came forward, rubbing his hands together, scenting in the unknown stranger a possible customer for note shaving.

"My name is Bernstein," said he, bowing. "What can I do for you this morning?"

"I would like to have a few minutes' private conversation with you," was Tipton's response.

"Certainly, sir. Step into my private office," said he, unlocking as he spoke the door that gave admission behind the counter.

Tipton followed him into the back room, the scene of the murder, closing the door after him. Bernstein offered him a chair and then himself took a seat at the desk.

"Well, sir, what private business did you wish to consult me upon?"

"I came, Mr. Bernstein, to Rosita on the last train, on a matter of business. I had hoped to find here a gentleman named Montaldo, who was some months since actively engaged in certain mining speculations, in order to consult him on some important matters of business. To my astonishment, on arriving here, I found that he has removed elsewhere. I have made some inquiries as to his present whereabouts, but without result. As a means of saving time, I have called to see you—my reason for so doing being that you were the purchaser of his property here, and from this I inferred that you may still have some uncompleted business relations so that you would know his whereabouts."

At the mention of Montaldo's name, Bernstein evinced a most eager interest, and when Tipton had ceased speaking he drummed reflectively on the desk before him with his fingers for a moment before replying.

"It is possible that Senor Montaldo may not desire that any one should be informed as to his present address," said he at last, craftily watching to note the effect of his words.

"Indeed?" answered Tipton gravely. "I not thought of that phase of the subject. It is a very important matter of business that I have with him. And I should regret very much if my journey should prove to be of no avail."

"Is your business of such a private nature that it is improper for you to give an idea of its character?" inquired Bernstein.

"It is purely financial in its nature," was Tipton's reply. "May I ask if you transacted any business for Montaldo—in stocks, for instance?"

"I have in the past done business—or, rather, Senor Montaldo has used our bank as a channel for numerous transactions."

"Then, if you still act for him in such business, you, of course, know his present address?"

"I am sorry to say that I have not his address at this present time, though I am expecting to hear from him every day," returned the banker. "Your business with him is purely financial, you say."

"Precisely so. As you transacted much business for him, it is possible you may know whether he still possesses any large number of mining shares?"

"Do you wish to obtain any shares of which he is a holder?"

"See here, Mr. Bernstein," said Tipton, "let us not be beating about the bush. I am perfectly willing to tell you in confidence why I wish to see Montaldo, if you can give me his present address?"

Bernstein, before answering, scanned his visitor narrowly. Tipton's face, however, could be masked when the occasion required it, and the look of candor which just now was its prevailing characteristic would have deceived even a more expert reader of character than the banker.

"Good," said the latter at last. "I can give you his address some little time ago. I am not certain whether he can be found there at present, if your business is important enough so take you thither. But, assuredly, you can there find his present whereabouts without difficulty. Is that sufficient?"

"Quite so," responded the detective. "The fact is, Mr. Bernstein—and please bear in mind that this is confidential—Montaldo was some time since the holder of a large amount of stock in the Douglas mining company. I deemed it probable that he still holds it, as it was so nearly worthless that nobody would buy. Do you happen to know whether he still holds the stock or not?"

At the mention of the Douglas mining company Bernstein started and leaned forward with every evidence of the most intense interest.

"I think he does," said Bernstein very slowly, evidently cogitating something very deeply in his own mind. "May I ask to what possible use you could put the stock—for I suppose that you desire to obtain possession of it?"

"Have you any of the stock?" demanded Tipton.

"I have somewhere a small block, but it has been so long since I saw it that I really have forgotten just where it is placed. I paid no attention to it, as I considered it valueless. Is it worth hunting up?"

"Well," said Tipton, glancing about the room, as if to reassure himself that they were alone, "it will be worth two or three hundred per cent in less than a month—that is, just as soon as the fact leaks out that the Douglas company has struck it rich. I have bought up all that I could find track of, and I know of no other stock out except that held by Montaldo, though, of course, there is more than half of it of which we can find no trace."

Bernstein's eyes snapped with excitement. "Two or three hundred per cent!" exclaimed he. "What a chance for a speculation!"

"Just so, Mr. Bernstein," answered Tipton. "I advise you if you know of any holders of the stock, to buy it in at once. And, now, will you give me the address?"

"Certainly, certainly," said Bernstein. "But, tell me more about this matter. I am anxious to know."

As the whole story which Tipton had told concerning the prospective rise in Douglas shares was fictitious, invented by Tipton himself to obtain, if possible, a clue to the whereabouts of the Montaldos, it was easy for him to invent a long story concerning the mine, which Bernstein drank in with greedy ears, under promise of strict secrecy. When this was done, Tipton again reminded him of his promise to tell him all he knew of the whereabouts of Montaldo. He pressed the question earnestly, as he was certain from Bernstein's manner that he knew of much more Douglas stock, which he undoubtedly purposed purchasing to hold for the anticipated boom.

"Well, sir," answered Bernstein, "I will confess that I was not exactly fair with you about the matter. In return for what you have told me, I will tell you where you can find Senor Montaldo. He is living at San Rafael, some forty-odd miles from here."

"Thanks," returned Tipton. "I hope, Mr. Bernstein, that you will see your way clear to making something nice out of Douglas."

"Never fear for that," chuckled Bernstein, in glee. "I am perfectly willing that you shall obtain Montaldo's shares, as I think I see my way to obtain more than he has in his possession."

"All right," answered Tipton, gayly, as he took his departure.

Leaving the bank, the detective hurried up street, and at once hired a horse to take him to San Rafael, directing that it should be brought to the hotel within ten minutes. He then hurried off to the telegraph office, and ascertaining from the railway time card the whereabouts of the train on which was the party with George Tempest, he sent a dispatch to Col. Vandeveer, to be delivered to him when the train reached the next station ahead, that he had left to look up some important evidence, and that he should not allow the examination to take place until his return. Next he went to the hotel and wrote a note to Col. Vandeveer, giving full details, which he left at the office, with directions to hand it to the colonel immediately upon his arrival. He then mounted the horse, which was awaiting him, and took the trail for San Rafael. It was an excellent animal, and by pushing on as rapidly as possible, it was not past the middle of the afternoon when he entered the town and rode up the straggling street.

He inquired for Montaldo's residence, and was directed to a tumble-down frame house in the outskirts of the town. Leaving his horse at the little hotel, he proceeded on foot. In response to his knock, the door was opened by an old Mexican woman, whom he had no difficulty in recognizing as Pepita. He inquired at once for Irma, and was ushered into the miserable little parlor to await her coming. It would have been difficult, from the descriptions which had been given him of the girl, for him to recognize the wasted woman who entered the room a few minutes later as Irma Montaldo.

"Senorita Montaldo?" inquired he.

Irma bowed.

"My name is Tipton, Senorita. I come from San Francisco. I have come to seek your aid in freeing an innocent man from a foul charge."

Irma looked up in surprise.

"You remember, Senorita, that a year ago Mr. Tempest was murdered at Rosita?"

"I do, Senor," replied Irma, flushing.

"You remember, also, that his nephew, George, was charged with the crime, but that he fled?"

Irma again nodded.

"You heard, perhaps, that the young man was drowned by falling from a steamboat on the Mississippi."

The girl's face paled visibly, and she was evidently struggling for composure. She merely bowed again in reply to his question.

"Then, I have some news which you are probably not prepared to hear. George Tempest is not dead!"

"Not dead!" shrieked Irma, springing from the chair. "Thank God for that! Tell me, where is he? You spoke of some one charged with murder. Is it he you mean? Speak, speak!"

"Yes," responded Mr. Tipton. "The story is a long one. Would you like to hear it?"

"Oh, yes. Tell me all."

Tipton then recited the facts concerning the attempt of Shanks to drown Tempest; of the escape of the latter; his wanderings in Mexico; his return to San Francisco; his recognition and arrest. When he had concluded, he said:

"Now, Senorita, George has told me all concerning yourself. I am convinced that if you wish you can save him from prison and an ignominious death on the scaffold, if you will do so. Will you tell me all that you know of this matter?"

The girl was in a state of perplexity painful to behold. Her face alternately flushed and paled. Her hands worked nervously in uncontrollable agitation.

"Speak, Senorita," exhorted Tipton. "Remember, George Tempest is the victim of circumstantial evidence. It is powerful enough to convict him, unless we can from you find the real murderer. Do not by your silence condemn him to the rope."

"I will speak," finally exclaimed she. "I owe it to him, and, fortunately, there is no reason now save shame why I should remain silent."

"One word more," exclaimed Tipton, a sudden thought striking him. "Before you tell me anything, does it implicate your father in any way?"

"The crime itself, Senor? Oh, no. My father may have been a weak man, but he was never a criminal," she said proudly.

"Where is he now?"

The girl looked up for a moment in surprise. Then she spoke:

"I had forgotten. You are a stranger here, and know nothing. My poor father is at rest. He died four weeks ago," and she pressed her handkerchief to her eyes.

"I beg your pardon, senorita," replied Tipton, noting for the first time the deep mourning which the girl wore. He waited till she was more composed, and then begged that she would go on with her story.

Tipton's note-book was again brought into requisition, and he carefully made memoranda of her statements. Her story in brief was as follows:

"My father for years speculated more or less in mining stocks. For a long time before the murder—almost, indeed, from the time that Mr. Tempest and Bernstein established a bank at Rosita—he had been involved in many transactions of that sort, in connection with Bernstein. This led to frequent consultations between the two, and consequently Bernstein became a constant visitor to our house. I am convinced that he early conceived the plan of making my father his victim, in a financial sense. He believed, I suppose, that with the growth of Rosita my father's property would increase very largely in value, as it was situated in the outskirts of the town; and he determined to possess himself of it. To do this he led my father into one speculation after another, and when money was needed he advanced it, taking security a mortgage at exorbitant interest upon the property.

"My poor father's mania for speculative ventures, like any other mania of the sort, grew by what it fed on. That his speculations were almost uniformly disastrous, had no effect in leading him to see the folly of his conduct. Like any other gambler, he saw his property melting away before his eyes, but it had not the slightest deterrent effect upon him.

"Bernstein's frequent visits to our house led to his making my acquaintance. This brought a new element into the calculation. He fell in love with me, and my father observing this, was very anxious that I should look with a favorable eye upon him, as he conceived that it would lead Bernstein to favor him all the more.

"I disliked the man from the time that I first set eyes on him. The idea of marriage to him was excessively repugnant. Meanwhile, my brother Jose became acquainted with George Tempest, and through him the latter also became a visitor in our family. Is it strange that I soon began to look with favor upon him, and that almost before I knew it I had fallen violently in love with him?

"My situation became almost unendurable. On the one side, Bernstein was pressing his suit, my father from interested motives aiding him; on the other was my own passion for George Tempest, a feeling that was never reciprocated by him—for I am sure that he was already in love before he ever saw me. My brothers, who hoped in some manner to obtain money from Mr. Tempest, used every endeavor to bring him to the house and thus lead him to become my suitor. In this, as you know, he failed.

"Thus things went until Bernstein refused to any longer advance my father money, as the debt which he already owed him amounted to the full value of his property. My father was desperate, for he could no longer obtain the means to indulge in his wild speculations. At this juncture, finding that I turned a deaf ear to his suit, Bernstein proposed to my father that if I would marry him he would release the mortgages upon his estate. The temptation was too great, and my father urged me by all means in his power to yield to Bernstein's request, and thus release the property. So powerful were his appeals that I probably would have done so, much as I disliked Bernstein, had it not been for my love for George Tempest. Loving him madly, I could not bear to think of wedding another, although I knew that it was hopeless to dream that I ever should become George's bride. Driven to desperation, I confessed all to my father, and implored him to save me, if possible, from Bernstein. My pleadings had some effect with him, and he went to my uncle, his brother, who lives in the state of Sonora, Mexico, to endeavor to obtain aid from him. In this he was unsuccessful. He then, in desperation, insisted that I should marry Bernstein, and would take no refusal.

"But I was as determined as he. I fully made up my mind to fly from home rather than give my hand without my heart, and that to a man at whom my soul revolted. But I was without money and there was no one to whom I could apply. You already know of the visit of George Tempest to my father, at the latter's request, and the interview I afterward had with him. I asked him for money to fly, and he promised it me. That night he came to my window and told me that he was going away.

"The next morning it was known that Mr. Tempest was murdered, and that George was charged with the awful deed. I felt sure of his innocence. I would have left at once, only that Bernstein was so occupied with business, owing to Mr. Tempest's sudden death, that he ceased entirely from troubling me; and I feared that should I suddenly leave, I might be suspected of a knowledge of the crime, and be followed and be brought ignominiously back.

"Thus matters went on for several days, when my father, growing anxious, renewed his demand that I should promise to marry Bernstein. I begged that he would give me one more night for reflection, intending to fly. I remained awake all that night, and toward morning I left the house, and made my way with quaking heart through the silent town toward the station, intending to take the morning train and escape into Mexico. I, of course, took the back streets, to avoid meeting any chance passer-by. This took me past the house at which Bernstein lived, and as I neared it I saw a man standing in the street and tossing pebbles against the glass of a second-story window, which I knew was occupied by Bernstein. I immediately concealed myself behind an adjacent building, and watched carefully to see what this could mean. The window was lifted, and Bernstein looked out. The man on the ground, whom I now know to have been Shanks, asked Bernstein to come down, as he had something very important to communicate. I waited until Bernstein came out of the house and joined Shanks. The two walked slowly in my direction. The building behind which I was concealed was an old stable. Unfastening the door and leaving it slightly ajar, I slipped in. The two men stood not more than a dozen yards away from me, and the greater part of their conversation was plainly audible. From this I learned that a man who had been employed for the purpose by Shanks has been searching through the mountains for George Tempest, in the neighborhood of the spot where he was last seen. This man, having in some manner obtained a clue to his refuge, had come directly to Rosita and roused Shanks. I learned, also, that Bernstein had secretly offered Shanks a large sum to find Tempest and to lead a mob thither, in order to lynch him. I heard, too, various plans discussed. Shanks was desirous of earning the reward offered by the authorities for the arrest of Tempest, and there was a dispute between the two over the matter. Shanks's plan was to notify the authorities and at the same time to give word to the men who were the leaders; to have Tempest arrested, and then have the mob take him from them by force and lynch him. I was not able to hear the conclusion at which they finally arrived, but I gathered enough to know that whatever was done would not be done before the next night. Bernstein entered the house and Shanks went away. The idea of the terrible peril in which George Tempest was placed drove all thought of flight from my mind. I returned home as rapidly as possible, and reached my room without my absence having been noticed. I could not, would not, leave Rosita, knowing that but a few hours would elapse until George Tempest, through the wicked plots of these two men, would die a shameful death. That morning my father renewed his entreaties that I would consent to marry Bernstein. I temporized. It was necessary that I should be free to go and seek aid to rescue George Tempest. I told my father that I would, conditioning my consent, however on a long engagement. He was willing to agree to anything, so that I would give him my word to marry Bernstein. He told me that the length of time of the engagement was dependent, to some extent, upon Bernstein himself. He embraced me, called endearing names, and promised to use his best efforts to have Bernstein fix as long a time before the wedding as possible.

"My heart smote me for the deception of which I was guilty, but it was in a good cause, and I believe that it was justifiable. I was nearly mad with anxiety, but it was almost noon before my father would allow me to leave him.

"I hurried out, and learned, fortunately, that Col. Vandeveer had arrived in town that morning. I went to the hotel, where one of the chambermaids had once been a servant of ours. She hid me in her room and kept a sharp lookout for the return of the colonel. Finally, she came to me, telling me that he was in his room, which she showed to me. I went and found his son. You know the rest of that story—how we succeeded in aiding George to escape from the hands of the mob. My absence from home had created great excitement in the family. My father was almost mad at the thought that I had run away. He had, however, not told Bernstein of the matter, for which I was devoutly thankful. I did not at first tell him the reason of my absence. I assured him that I had gone on an errand of mercy, and promised within a short time to explain it all to him. He was furious at me, and kept me for several days locked in my room. Feeling sure, after that lapse of time, that George had succeeded in making good his escape, I finally told my father a portion of the truth—that I had accidentally heard where George was hidden and fearing that he would be discovered, I took a trusted friend and went to warn him; that he had escaped, and would probably never return.

"He reproached me bitterly for indulging in such a daring and unmanderly exploit. To pacify him, I was ready to promise anything; and when he again recurred to the marriage question, I promised him unhesitatingly that when Bernstein proposed in due form I would accept him. This was done in order to gain my liberty, that I might have an opportunity to escape. My purpose was, of course, as firm as ever to fly far away from the hated presence of my suitor.

"My ready promise and my manner, over which I kept strict guard, lulled all suspicion to sleep in my father's bosom. He then became very anxious to have Bernstein make his visit as speedily as possible. For some reason which I have never understood,

Recent Literature.

The Latest Volumes that have Reached the Blade Book Table.

"The Evolution of Life, or Causes of Change in Animal Forms" is a study in Biology by Dr. Hubbard Winslow Mitchell. This is an effort to explain the physiological causes of the changes in the anatomy of the animal kingdom. The book is splendidly written, and shows a wide acquaintance with the subject, and great and careful research. This volume is also from the Putnams.

"Zigzag Journeys in Australia, or a Visit to the Ocean World," by Hezekiah Butterworth, comes from the same publishers. It describes the wonderful resources and natural advantages of the fifth continent, gives an insight into the social relations of the people, and contains stories of the early gold discoveries and of the animals peculiar to the fascinating country.

The bound volume of the "Little Ones' Annual for 1892" is also from Estes & Lauriat, Boston. It contains nearly four hundred entirely original illustrations drawn expressly for the work by the most celebrated book illustrators in America, and engraved in the highest style, under the superintendence of George T. Andrew.

"Chatterbox" for 1891 has made its appearance and will be read with delight by many American boys and girls. The pictures are many hundred in number and, like the stories and short articles, are admirably calculated to amuse and instruct the young.

"The Flying Islands of the Night" is a fantastic drama in verse by James Whitcomb Riley, which is published by The Bowen-Merrill Co., Indianapolis. It is prettily bound in heavy cream colored paper with gold lettering.

From Estes & Lauriat, Boston, comes "Three Vassar Girls in the Tyrol," by Elizabeth W. Champney. This ever-welcome volume, which yearly takes our friends, the Vassar girls, on their summer traveling tour, this year embodies with its entertaining story a most interesting account of the Passion Play at Ober-Ammergau, making one of those thoroughly instructive and entertaining volumes of travel for which the author is noted.

"A Chicago Bible Class," by Ursula N. Gestefeld, is published by the United States Book company, 150 Worth street, New York City.

The same publishing company send "The Five Hundred Dollar Check," by Horatio Alger, jr., author of "Ragged Dick" series, "Luck and Pluck" series, etc. The story of a sin which apparently went unpunished, and which brought worldly prosperity, while the innocent suffered, is very well told, and teaches a good lesson.

The United States Book company also issue "Launcelot and Guenevere," which is "A Poem in Dramas," by Richard Hovey. It is the old story of the brave knight of the Round Table and the fair queen whose love brought him to grief told in the dramatic form.

From the Worthington Company, New York City, comes "The Bachelor of Salamanca," translated from the French of A. R. Le Sage by James Townsend, and "Light O' Love," by Clara D. Maclean, both with photogravure illustrations.

"The Lost Colony," by James F. Raymond, is one of the most singular as well as exciting stories that we have seen lately. The narrative hinges on the fortunes of a Southern family, who pass through a startling succession of fortunes and changes of lot. With their fate is also bound up that of a young officer in the army, who distinguishes himself by his bravery. T. B. Peterson & Brothers, Philadelphia, Pa.

A beautiful volume is the one issued by Estes & Lauriat, Boston, entitled "The Lily of the Arno," the "Lily" being the city of Florence, whose past and present is here described by Virginia W. Johnson. It is written in an easy, pleasant style and brings before the pictures before the reader most vividly. The volume is well illustrated, and very handsomely bound in white cloth with bordering in blue and gold.

A volume that should attract a good deal of attention from those interested in the cause of temperance is one entitled "The Junior Partners," by A. M. Rawson. It deals with the social and mental perils encountered by the use of alcohol, and these are represented in good language and with fidelity to truth. It is published by the J. Stuart company, 1170 Market street, San Francisco, California.

A beautiful little holiday volume is the "Princess Isle," which is a translation from the German by Florence M. Cronise, and illustrated by John E. Bundy. It is published by Albert, Scott & Co., 106 Wabash avenue, Chicago.

"Star and Song" is a lovely little Christmas souvenir, the author of which is Mary A. Allen, M. D., the national lecturer of the W. C. T. U. and the author of "The Man Wonderful in the House Beautiful." It is published by Lama Allen, Wilton Junction, Iowa. Price 25 cents.

"Hildegarde's Holiday," by Laura E. Richards, is published by Estes & Lauriat, Boston.

So great was the popularity of "Queen Hildegarde," which preceded this volume, that the author deemed it advisable to follow the haps and mishaps of the heroine in a second and uniform volume, which is fully up to the high standard of its worthy predecessor.

SMILE PROVOKERS.

A cashier's check—"No funds."—[Lowell Courier.

A child's lunch at a hotel is something out of the ordinary.—[New Orleans Picayune.

Lady—"Lisette, you are not going out like that, are you? You smell so horribly of turpentine!"

Cook—"You see, mum, I couldn't find any other sort of perfume in the house." [Dorfbarbier.

Jacques Bonhomme—"I care not for ze honaires of society, though my father was one of ze chevaliers of France."

William Reilly—"I agree wid yez, an' me father was one of the shovelers of de Sixdt ward."—New York Herald.

Young Nervergo—"I beg your pawdon, Miss Polly, for leaving so early, for weally, I feel so much at home, heah, always."

Miss Polly—"No apologies are necessary; I'm sure I always wish you to be at home when you are here."—[Pittsburg Bulletin.

A widower married a sister of his late wife, a few weeks after the death of the latter. An acquaintance who had just returned from a long journey sympathetically inquired who he was in mourning for.

"For my sister-in-law," was the hesitating reply.—[Lustige Blatter.

"Of course I have. The expression 'air tight' obtained its origin from just that fact."—[Pittsburg Chronicle.

"Keyless seems to be very attentive to Miss Mittens."

"Yes, he has become acquainted with her at last. But I guess he never would have if it hadn't been for an accident."

"What sort of an accident?"

"You see they ran into each other so hard while skating yesterday, that they both sat down; that broke the ice."—[Judge.

A Lucid Inetval (Things one would rather have expressed differently.) Doctor—"How is the patient this morning?"

Nurse—"Well—He has been wondering a good deal in his mind. Early this morning I heard him say, 'What an old woman that doctor is!'—and I think that was about the last really rational remark he made."—[London Punch.

PAINE AND BLISS.

[The nuptials of Mr. Paine and Miss Bliss were recently celebrated in a Western town. —Press Item.]

Quite different motives, as we see,
Together brought these twain;
In life he wanted Bliss and she
A preference had for Paine.

The nuptial rite that joined their hands
Was good for him, for he
Possesses bliss in wedlock's bands
While only Paine has she.

But marriage is a failure—plain—
When all is said and done,
For Bliss at once was changed to Paine
When these two were made one.

Still matters may not go amiss
And joy may with them reign,
For if she's like most wives then Bliss
Will triumph over Paine.
—[N. Y. Press.

OLD DAYS AT WEST POINT

CAPTAIN KING'S REMINISCENCES

During the Dark Days of the War—Arrival of the "Seps"—How Two Distinguished Personages Were "Protected."

[Copyright, 1891.]

OW it may be inferred from these previous chapters that all this "persecution" on part of the "old cadets" at the expense of the plebes went on unrebuked by the authorities. The fact of the matter is, the authorities knew precious little about it. I doubt if there ever was a time in the history of West Point when the corps of cadets were left so much to themselves and their own devices as in '62 and '63. Later an investigation was made; a court of inquiry sat for many a long week, and the War department fulminated an order which deprived half of our class of more than half the prized furlough at the end of the first two years' service. But nobody ever interposed in our behalf when we were plebes, or seemed to bother a head about us. The superintendent was "house-bound," and rarely, if ever, ventured outside his own gate.

A RUDE AWAKENING.

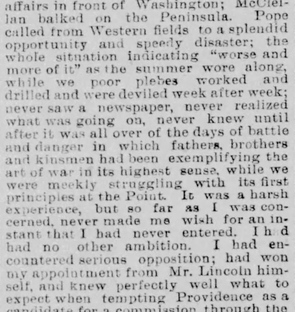
The commandant was imploring the War office to get him into the field. His whole heart was in the war, and a gallant and distinguished general he became.

As for the other officers of that eventful July and August of '62, they could think of little else than the stress of affairs in front of Washington; McClellan balked on the Peninsula. Pope called from Western fields to a splendid opportunity and speedy disaster; the whole situation indicating "worse and more of it" as the summer wore along, while we poor plebes worked and drilled and were deviled week after week; never saw a newspaper, never realized what was going on, never knew until after it was all over of the days of battle and danger in which fathers, brothers and kinsmen had been exemplifying the art of soldiering in the highest sense, while we were meekly struggling with its first principles at the Point. It was a harsh experience, but so far as I was concerned, never made me wish for an instant that I had never entered. I had had no other ambition. I had encountered serious opposition; had won my appointment from Mr. Lincoln himself, and knew perfectly well what to expect when tempting Providence as a candidate for a commission through the United States Military Academy in the days when nobody had time to think of what was transpiring within its hallowed walls.

So it was with delight we hailed the near approach of "breaking camp," and then moving into barracks where, by the unwritten laws of the corps, we would be released from our servitude and the disturbance that our bewildered faculties might recuperate and grapple with Bourdon and "goose tracks."

A week before the first of September came the first of the "Seps"—an arrival that thrilled us—now thoroughly drilled, tanned, uniformed, hardened and looking like old cadets—almost as much as it did the yearlings. Of course these newcomers were to be our classmates, and we could not "devil" them, but we could and did regard them as of a plane beneath our own. Years before the war there was a saying in the old army, "No officer has won his spurs until he has served in Texas." And in the same measure at West Point did we hold that no man who had not passed through plebe camp was ever a full-fledged cadet. To this day such men are distinguished from their kind by the soubriquet "Sep," and of late years a movement has taken shape to do away entirely with the September admissions—so essential is the discipline, as well as the teaching of the plebe camp regarded.

The appearance of four or five shy, strange, awkward young fellows trudging across the plain toward camp, convoyed by the familiar drum boy orderly, was greeted with a howl of rejoicing by the yearlings and suppressed but rapturous excitement by "ours." It brought the commandant hurrying from the telegraph office and then, to the unspeakable indignation of the third classmen who were promising themselves the wild joys of an "initiation" in camp, a cadet lieutenant and two cadet corporals were



THE "SEPTS" ASLEEP.

promptly detailed to take the newcomers over to barracks and assume charge of them and all who should arrive to a fill their numbers. That night the parade the adjutant read an order declaring the barracks off limits to all cadets except the three or four detailed for duty over them, and forbidding any communication whatsoever with the new comers. And thus was the array of old cadets to be balked of its time-honored festival in honor of the "Seps."

That night a trio of yearlings slipped across the post of Number Five, stole noiselessly through the guns of the field battery south of camp, and so on to the friendly shadows of the big elms in front of the chapel. It was after 12 o'clock; lights were out all over the sleeping Point. The soldier sentry at the corner of the old academic was always deaf and blind when cadets came scudding down the pathways in his charge. Softly they tip-toed through the echoing sally-port and up the iron stairway of the barrack wing, now occupied as a barbor of refuge for the belated cadets. In one room, sleeping perhaps for the first time of their lives on the floor, were the tallest and shortest of the day's batch—two young fellows who bore two of the most prominent names known in the Western states. Gently but firmly they were bidden to arise, take up their beds and follow. Unhesitatingly they obeyed, and, blanket laden, were marched around by way of the road overhanging the majestic Hudson, across the post of Number Four, who was most accountably at the other end of it at the moment, and were conducted straightway to the sanctum sanctorium of a soldier camp—the big marquee of the commanding officer. On its wooden floor they again made down their beds, obedient to the calm instructions of their guides, and were bidden to go to sleep and fear no disturbance. "Some of your fellows will probably have a rough initiation over in barracks after the clock strikes 1, but for the sake of the names you bear (heaven forgive the whopper, the bigger the name the more had the bearer to be taken down) we have brought you here out of harm's way. To-morrow, sometime, you may be aroused by the man who has charge of the tent—a rather good-looking, middle-aged party, with reddish hair and beard. He will, of course, be astonished, but pay no attention to him. You're all right."

And before the gentlemen with the distinguished names could mumble their thanks their merciful guides vanished, leaving them stretched in front of the commandant's sacred desks, surrounded by the commandant's papers, books, and belongings, while that distinguished officer himself lay gently snoring in the little tent wherein he slept, just back of the big, official canvas of his office and headquarters.

I think the whole corps was on the qui vive at roll call. We all honored and respected our courteous chief—none the less because we knew he chafed at having to command us fledglings instead of the regiment of cavalry awaiting him in the field. In some mysterious way it was whispered all over camp before gunfire that something queer was in store for the Colonel. As was his regular custom, out he came from the little tent, in he stepped into the big, and then, to the exquisite joy of every old cadet in the secret, recoiled. There on the floor, looking up at him through sleepy eyes, were the two young men whom, to protect from molestation, he had moved from camp to barracks the day before.

If the yearlings looked for an explosion they were disappointed. "Get those Septembers back to barracks, Mr. C——," he quietly said to the officer of the guard, and nothing was ever done about it, for within a day or two he penned his farewell order to the corps and was wearing the stars of a general before those Seps were fairly into uniforms.

And then for several months we had no commandant at all—only an acting officer—until the healing wounds Fair Oaks and Gaines's Mill brought to us such gallant gentlemen and instructors as Clitz and Chambliss, scarred, crippled, but soldiers to the core.

CHARLES KING.

CONTINUED NEXT WEEK.

THIS HEN KNOWS SOMETHING.

She Has a Preference for Human Society, and She Likes to Slide.

Nearly all the children in Northwood, N. Y., especially the girls, are willing to vouch for the soul of the gray-speckled chicken that is now watching the construction of a snow slide down Jones's hill. The fact that the lower animals do possess souls has been declared so emphatically in some of the prayer meetings that some of the good people have come to believe it. To be sure the minister has not given authority for this declaration, but Farmer Howard is a strong speaker, and he has brought conviction home. The little girls say that then he can almost talk, and they are almost convinced that she understands all that is said to her. Her preference for human company is decidedly marked, and she seems to care very little for the other chickens that strut around her. As soon as one of the little girls comes in sight off goes the hen as fast as her fat legs will carry her. Then something like the following conversation occurs:

Little Girl (in very affectionate tones) —Halloo you, my chickie?

Speckled Hen (eagerly)—Kur—kur.

Little Girl—How do you feel this morning, my chickie?

Speckled Hen (edging up to girl and rubbing against her)—Kur—kur—kur.

The shades of inflection in the hen's voice are remarkable, expressing joy, contentment, affection, eagerness and satisfaction.

The appearance of the children with their sleds this morning excited her extremely, and she has been watching them fixing the slide. Last winter no "double ripper" party was complete without the hen. She would ride down in the lap of some pretty girl and would "kur—kur" at the top of her voice, just like any living youngster. Once or twice she was forgotten in the excitement, and then she stood at the top of the hill and scolded most vehemently until some notice was taken of her. She evidently knows what the present slide means, and she comes out in the snow while the other hens mope in their coops. The owner of this wonderful fowl has determined not to kill her under any circumstances.

THE LATEST COON YARN,

Roman Candles Successfully Used in Hunting Them.

The inhabitants of the mountains west of Gettysburg are great coon hunters. Some nights ago Bill Benchoff and Col. Yingling started out with half a dozen dogs and two boys to carry the torches.

A coon was raised on the east side of the Monterey, and the dogs chased it down through a deep and rough ravine and up a rocky spur on the west. After a climb of an hour and a half Yingling at last came up with the dogs. They had run the coon into a tree and were snarling and barking around underneath. The boys whirled their torches, and Benchoff banged away at what he supposed was the coon, but no animal tumbled.

Yingling in the meantime, had been tearing paper and trying to ignite a match, but it was damp and would only sputter. Benchoff was deriding him, when suddenly a great ball of fire illuminated space. Yingling had succeeded in igniting his match, and was empting a roman candle into the tree.

The first ball struck a branch and burst, and the second hit the coon "plumb center." Its fur caught fire, and with a yell of agony and fright, it came rolling down among the angry dogs. The third ball revealed two more coons in the tree, and Benchoff's ready rifle dropped one, while Yingling, with the last ball in the candle, hit the limb on which the third coon clung in pitiful terror, and it lost its hold and tumbled into the mouths of the waiting dogs.

They got six more coons that night with the help of Yingling's candles, and now the colonel regularly shoots the romans and Beuchoff shoots the gun. They are the most successful coon hunters in all the region.

LOVE.

The wintry days are coming,
And care doth cloud the sky;
Gone is the wild bee's humming,
And snows and storms are nigh.
Our hearts are filled with sorrow,
Sickness and pain betide;
We dread each coming morrow,
In shadows we abide.

Love, lest we falter wholly,
Our blessings let us count,
And, though they cast up slowly,
Great is the whole amount.
There's child tones and caresses,
There's home to shelter still,
There's faith that always blesses,
There's energy and will.

We, who have love to bind us,
Let naught asunder part;
Each new care shall remind us
Of one most faithful heart,
Sickness nor pain can sever—
Poverty nor regret—
And trouble be the lever
To lift us higher yet.
—[S. S.

Hood's Sarsaparilla Is Peculiar To Itself In Strength, Economy, And Curative Power IOO Doses One Dollar Be Sure To Get

No other medicine ever placed before the public has won the people's confidence so thoroughly as Hood's Sarsaparilla. From a small beginning this medicine has steadily and rapidly increased in popularity until now it has the largest sale of any preparation of its kind. Its success it has won simply because it is constantly proving that it possesses positive merit, and does accomplish what is claimed for it. This merit is given Hood's Sarsaparilla by the fact that it is prepared by a Peculiar Combination, Proportion and Process known only to Hood's Sarsaparilla, and by which the full medicinal power of all the ingredients used is retained. Thousands of voluntary witnesses all over the country testify to wonderful benefit derived from it. If you suffer from any disease or affection caused by impure blood, take Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Sold by all druggists. C. I. HOOD & CO., Lowell, Mass.

Hood's

Question Bureau.

Rules.—1. Send your real name and address. The name will not be published.

2.—Send only one question at a time. If you expect full replies. If more than one, they *must* be on the same general subject, not on different ones.

3.—Do not ask us where you can *buy* or *sell* anything, nor ask for addresses of business men or firms. This would be free advertising.

4.—Do not ask whether any business man or firm is reliable.

5.—Send only questions whose replies will be of general interest to our readers. We reserve the right not to answer queries which we consider are not so. Mathematical problems, puzzles, etc., are barred by this rule.

6.—No replies by mail to questions, in any case.

Pension Questions.

R. S.: Write full statement of the matter to the "Commissioner of Pensions, Washington, D. C."

R. H. B., Adamsville, O.: A dependent mother is entitled to $12 per month under the act of June 27, 1890.

Ex-soldier, Vermillion, S. D.: The pension to which the widow of a soldier who drew a pension under a special act would depend entirely on whether he died of disease contracted in the service or not. In the former case, the pension will be $12; in the latter, $8 per month.

O. B. M., Reform, O.: Where and when did the soldier enlist? Write us again. We will try and ascertain.

No name, Laddonia: Why did you not give your name in the start? Your claim filed in 1889, is probably rejected, unless you can prove that the death of your husband was due to his wounds. Your claim under the recent law may be allowed soon, provided you have furnished the proofs necessary.

Old Soldier, Delaware, O.: Apply by letter to the Governor of the National Military Home, Dayton, Ohio.

C. H. R., Gibson, O.: If her minor children were the children of the soldier, the law provides them with a pension. If the widow remarries, she forfeits her pension.

E. B., Wichita, Kan., asks: "A soldier drew a pension and back pay under the old law; then he applied under the new law and is receiving $12 under it. Can he now apply for an increase under the old law and receive it?"

If the disability for which you were a pensioner has increased to such a degree as to entitle you to a larger pension than $12 per month, the law now in force, viz., that under the act of June 27, 1890, you can file an application for increase and receive a larger pension, if the facts warrant it.

Anarchists, Communists, Socialists.

M. L. D., Tangier, Ind.: An anarchist believes in the abolition of all government. If this were done, a nation would revert to a condition of barbarism, should it continue. There would be no law to define or punish offences, and hence there could be no property rights. A man could keep property only by fighting for it. Most Anarchists are really Communists or Socialists.

The Communist theory is that all wealth should be held as the property of all, and that no one should own more than another. All should labor, under the direction of the state, and the results of that labor should be for the benefit of all, the government deciding what each one shall do, and compelling him to do it. It would bring up all children at the expense of the state, and generally communistic schemes embrace free love doctrines. Communism is an advanced stage of Socialism.

The term Socialist is generally applied to those Communists who go no further than to abolish competition and wages, making an equal division of the products of labor.

The Anarchists in this country are generally Germans or Russians. Many French are also Communists.

Gen. Russell A. Alger.

S. M. S., Bulltown, W. Va.: Russell A. Alger was born in Medina county, O., in 1836. Left an orphan at the age of eleven, worked on farm till eighteen, and after teaching, studied law, and admitted to the bar in 1859. Began practice in Cleveland, moved to Grand Rapids, Mich., where he engaged in the lumber business. Became captain First Michigan cavalry at the opening of the civil war. Was wounded and taken prisoner at Boonesville, Miss., in 1862, but escaped. On October 16, was made lieutenant colonel of the Sixth Michigan cavalry, later becoming colonel of the Fifth Michigan cavalry. His command on the 28th of June, 1863, was the first to enter Gettysburg. He was wounded at Boonsborough, Md., on July 8. In June, 1865, he was made brevet major general. After the war, he resumed the lumber business and acquired a large fortune. In 1884 he was elected governor of Michigan by Republicans, serving until 1887. He was commander-in-chief of the G. A. R. in 1889-90, one term.

Finding the Length of the Meter.

Subscriber, Lansing, Mich.: The French meter was intended to be the one-10,000,000th part of the length of the quadrant (from the North Pole to the Equator) of the meridian circle on which Paris is situated. An arc of this great circle, extending from Dunkirk to Barcelona, comprising about 10° of latitude, was measured trigonometrically. Similar measurements had been made in Sweden and in Peru, and from these measurements the total length of the quadrant was found to be in toises, the old six-foot measure of France. The quadrant was completed, of course, by assuming that if the number of degrees actually measured gave a certain number of toises, the length of the whole 90 degrees would equal the product of the length (in degrees and decimals of degrees) of the part unmeasured, multiplied by the ratio of the part measured to the number of toises it was found to measure.

Queen Victoria's Revenue.

E. C. G., Evans, Colo.: Queen Victoria's "salary" is called the "civil list." She has an annual allowance of £385,000 "for the support of Her Majesty's household, and of the honor and dignity of the Crown of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland." By the law from which the above is quoted, £60,000 per year is to be paid into Her Majesty's Privy Purse" (this is what we in this country would be called her salary); £231,200 per year for the salaries of the royal household; £44,740 for pensions to servants; and £13,200 for royal bounty, alms, and special services. This leaves, out of the £385,000 mentioned above, £36,300, which may be applied in aid of the general expenditure of Her Majesty's household. Queen Victoria also has paid to her the revenues of the duchy of Lancaster, which net her from £41,000 to £45,000 a year. As £1 sterling is $4.86 of our money, it is easy to calculate her personal revenue.

Gen. Nathan Goff.

S. M. S., Bulltown, W. Va.: Gen. Nathan Goff was born in Clarksburg, W. Va., October 9, 1843. He was educated at the Northwestern Virginia Academy, Georgetown College, and the University of New York. In 1861 he enlisted in the Union army, Third regiment of Virginia volunteer infantry, serving as lieutenant and adjutant of this regiment, promoted to major of the Fourth Virginia cavalry in 1863. In 1865 he was admitted to the bar and chosen to the W. Va. legislature. In 1868 was district attorney for U. S., resigning in 1881 to fill unexpired term of Richard W. Thompson, as secretary of the Navy. He resigned in 1882, was again appointed district attorney, and afterwards elected to Congress in 1884, and again in 1886. He was elected governor of West Virginia in 1888, but kept out of the seat by Democratic chicanery.

Elaine's Religion.

D. R., Vallejo, Cal., and Mrs. M. E. W., Plano, Ill.: James G. Blaine is not a Catholic, and never was one. His great grandfather, Ephraim, was the friend of Washington, and commissary general of the northern department for the last four years of the Revolution. Blaine, on his father's side, is of Scotch-Irish descent—that race which is famed for its Protestantism to this day. Blaine's mother, Maria Gillespie, was a Catholic; but James was induced to the Presbyterian convictions of his father, and has always attended Presbyterian worship. His wife and living children are all Protestants. These facts are known to be such to the writer of this; and we hope to hear no more from BLADE readers on this silly subject.

Representatives Need Not Live in Their Districts.

W. M. Woonsocket, S. D.: The constitution of the United States only provides that a Representative must live in the state from which elected. He need not live in the district he represents, either before or after his election. When a state is redistricted, the redistricting law states when it goes into effect—usually the next March. Any officials notice the House of Representatives gets of any redistricting is in the credentials of the members elected under the new redistricting. Please observe Rule 2 above. You will see you are entirely in error in supposing that a Representative must reside in the district which he represents. There have been several cases in our history in which a Representative was elected in a district in which he did not reside.

"Indian Boundary Line."

E. A., Baden Baden, Ill., asks: "What is the significance of the two lines on the map of Illinois, marked 'Indian Boundary Line,' extending from Hyde Park township, Cook county, to Reed township, Will county; the other from Evanston township, Cook county, to Seward township, Kendall county; thence through a part of Kendall and La Salle counties to Fox river?"

We do not know. Will some reader, familiar with the subject, answer for publication?

Pharaoh, the Oppressor.

Reader, Minersville, O.: Although not specifically stated in the account in Exodus, there is no doubt that the Pharaoh (Pharaoh was a name of the Oppressors) was drowned in the Red Sea. His mummy was found a few years ago in a tomb in Egypt, and is now in the museum at Boulak, Egypt. Some two years ago the Century magazine had an illustrated article about the finding and unwrapping of this mummy, with fine portraits of the face of the old oppressor.

Nazareth.

O. B. L., Rock Creek, O.: Your question about the "barony of Nazareth" evidently refers to the village of Nazareth in Northampton county, Pennsylvania, founded by George Whitefield in 1740, who, before completing a building for the education of negro children, sold it to Count Zinzendorf, who finished it for the use of the Moravians. The village contains a Moravian academy for boys.

Lithographic Stone.

E. A., Austin, Tex.: In some un explained way, your letter has been lost, and has just turned up. If you have found rock that is probably lithographic stone, the only way to test it is to get out a slab of proper size and send it to some lithographic firm to test. The Sutbridge Lithographing Co., of Cincinnati, is one of the leading ones in the United States; and doubtless you can get the address of others in St. Louis, New Orleans or Chicago. They can tell you what size and thickness to cut the slab to send them to test.

H. R., Payson, Ariz.: The fragments you send us look like lithographic stone, but there is no lithographer in Toledo to whom we can submit them. Note the answer above.

"Tonic Sol-Fa" System.

S. M. H., Kewanee, Neb.: The tonic sol-fa system was invented by accident by Miss Glover, the daughter of an English clergyman at Norwich, Eng., about 1812; but it was developed by John Curwen, who died in 1881. Miss Glover was teaching a young man simple church tunes by playing them over and over to him on the piano. To save herself time, she pasted letters on the keys of the piano, and wrote on a slip of paper these letters in the order the corresponding keys must be struck to play the tune. She afterward improved on this by using the old "sol-fa" pitch notes, do, re, mi, fa, sol, la, si, do, and sliding them up and down, following the key-note of each tune, always making *do* the key-note. The tonic sol-fa system is only a development of this principle.

Miscellaneous.

L. A. D. Hooper, Wash.: We do not know.

X. Y. Z., Milledgeville, O.: We do not know.

L. W., Summerset, Iowa: We have not the statistics to answer your question.

G. V., Elk Creek, Cal.: Write to your Representative in Congress to send you a copy.

J. M. A., Sherman, Ind.: Any large school geography will answer your questions about the Holy Land.

F. S. D., Kingsville, Mo.: President Lincoln signed the Morrill tariff bill. Foster was never President.

J. E. S., Tamora, Neb.: The most northern inhabited town in the world is Hammerfest, Norway. See Rule 2.

G. W. C., Toledo, O.: Address the "Quartermaster General U. S. Army, War Department, Washington, D. C."

J. B. W., Effingham, Kan.: Your question is not suitable for discussion in any publication save medical or theological.

J. H., Pawnee, Ill.: We published a long discussion of the origin of the terms "Sucker" and "Pikes" in the Bureau a few months ago.

R. C., Atlantic, W. Va.: It is not a coin, but a German "spell-mark." They are valueless, and used, we believe, as counters in a game of cards.

M. K. J., Gibson, O.: There are a number of small settlements on the northern shore of Lake Superior, chiefly devoted to lumbering and fishing.

Florence, Deadwood, S. D.: We published a long article about the Salvation army in the Bureau about three mouths ago. We cannot repeat so soon.

F. E. H., Bentonsville, N. Y.: The first steamship to cross the Atlantic was the Savannah, in 1819, from Savannah, Ga., to Russia by way of England.

W. F. R., Pender, Neb.: There is no such book published. The lives of most of our greatest American statesmen have been published, and contain selections from their speeches.

"H. H.," Hutton Valley, Mo.: One can learn to read German with the aid of elementary German books and German dictionary, but not to speak it. A teacher, in any case, is an enormous help.

B. E. D., Paris, O.: We had, in the Finance Primer, a number of articles on the Sherman silver law. We will be glad to send you a copy of THE BLADE if you can give us the date.

W. L. M., Moundsville, W. Va.: We are unable to answer accurately either question you ask, and suppose an answer not strictly accurate would be of no service to you.

H. C. D., Ada, Ohio.: If you had observed Rule 1 above, we would have taken pleasure in sending you sample pages of the Encyclopedia. We can not print it in THE BLADE.

O. B. M., Reform, O.: To obtain a position as guard at the Ohio penitentiary, enlist the good offices of your state representatives and senators. They will tell you how to proceed.

G. W. W., Lock, Ok.: A ball fired from a "true" rifle barrel which is absolutely horizontal will not rise, but curve gradually downward till it strikes the earth. Why don't you try the experiment for yourself?

R. W., Waller, Cal.: We can not republish poems and songs that have appeared in THE BLADE. Our readers want new matter, not a constant republication of old stuff. Keep a scrap-book and paste in it each week the articles you wish to preserve.

C. R., Monroe, Wis.: We have not the historical circumstances about which you ask. Dr. Rawson, of Findley, O., died shortly after we completed the publication of "The Demagogue" in THE BLADE. We published an account of him at the time of his death.

R. T. Q., Miller City, O.: The state does not buy lands sold for delinquent taxes. There is no authority of law to allow officials to do so. Nor, if it were so, could the state give a warrantee deed on selling such property. All it would be, in any case, would be a tax title.

J. H. W., Schley, Ga.: We know nothing of the patent you mention, nor of the reality of the advertisements in its columns. You ought to know, however, no lady a gentleman would wish to make his wife would ever advertise for a husband, or answer such an advertisement.

E. F., Freeport, Ill.: Read Rule 3 above. To get any book whatever, order some bookseller to send for it for you. If he will not, then write to some publisher whose name and address are given in the column of "Recent Literature" on the 2d page of nearly every issue of the Weekly BLADE, inclosing postage.

R. C., Spring Creek, Pa.: In speaking of the production of an oil well being so many barrels per day, a barrel of 42 gallons is meant. Refined coal oil, such as is used for burning, is not measured by the barrel, but by the gallon. A barrel of it usually contains from 50 to 52 gallons. We do not know the prices of the land you ask for.

M. W., Casey, Ill.: The Democrats in your vicinity are wrong, as usual, when they say that fine looking-glass plates can not be made in the United States. They were not made until after the Democratic free trade tariff, because there was no plate glass made in this country till then. The De Pauw plate glass works in Indiana make plate glass equal to any in the world.

E. K., Columbus Grove, O.: A "local freight" train on a railroad is one which carries freight destined for the various stations on that road. A "through freight" is one whose freight which is destined for one point East or West. Thus a Baltimore & Ohio "through freight" going West would carry freight destined for Chicago, Cincinnati, St. Louis, or some other Western city. Eastward it would carry freight destined for Baltimore or some other Eastern city.

R. J. S., Plainfield, Ill.: We do not know who publishes a portrait of Lincoln, suitable for framing, but any bookseller or picture dealer ought to be able to find out for you. We had a number of these for sale, but they are out of print, and we have none left. Do not you remember, when we offered the few copies we had remaining about a year and a half ago, how quickly they were the very last?

C. W. B., Petrolia, Pa.: The mode of electing the chief magistrate varies in the different republics of the world. In one or two cases he is elected by the national legislature, the same as if Congress elected our President; but in most directly, and some by a method somewhat like our own system. The oldest republic of any note in the world is Switzerland.

H. C., Herndon, Cal.: If the Vice President-elect "accept," by any means, it is not filled until the next regular Presidential election. The constitution does not provide for filling such a vacancy. Bills have been put through the Lords and Commons to become laws in Great Britain, for answer on "Naturalization" in Bureau of Weekly BLADE of December 10. Read Rule 2 above and observe it if you expect answers.

Typo, Sabina, O.: A proof-reader should have a fair-to-good education, have all the niceties of rhetoric, grammar and punctuation at his finger's ends, be fully acquainted with current political and general history so as to get names spelled and used correctly; in fact, he should be a walking encyclopedia, besides having the eyes of a hawk and the judgment of a Solomon. Unfortunately, but few proof-readers possess these qualifications.

J. M. S., Galveston, Ind.: We do not know whether Stanley intends to go to Africa again or not. If he does, he will go under the direction of the British government, and his party will be made up of British army officers selected by that government. The only other men taken, besides the physician, will be natives who will be hired wherever he makes his starting point. We do not know Stanley's address, and could not publish it if we did, under Rule 3 above.

A helping hand to lift up weak, tired, overtaxed women—that's what you'll find in Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It gives you just the help that you need.

It's a medicine that's made especially to build up women's strength and to cure women's ailments—an invigorating, restorative tonic, soothing cordial, and bracing nervine; purely vegetable, non-alcoholic, and perfectly harmless. It regulates and promotes all the proper functions of womanhood, improves digestion, enriches the blood, dispels aches and pains, melancholy and nervousness, brings refreshing sleep, and restores health and strength.

What's the use of "trying this" and "trying that," when here is a remedy that's *guaranteed?* In all the derangements, irregularities, and weaknesses peculiar to the sex, periodical pains, internal inflammation and ulceration, weak back, leucorrhœa and every kindred ailment, if the "Favorite Prescription" fails to benefit or cure, you have your money back.

The Farmstead.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Warts on Heifer's Teats.

Mrs. B. F., Ohio: In the present condition of your heifer, the only thing that you can do, will be to rub the teats twice a day with lard that has salt in it. Keep this up for three or four weeks. If this will not remove them you must wait until after she calves. In most instances, however, the warts will disappear under the above treatment.

Lame Mare.

J. O. H., Garrett county, Md.: The lump on the leg of your mare may have resulted from a sprained tendon. Try rubbing it twice a day with iodine, ¾ oz.; soap liniment, 6 ozs. Examine foot to see if it is all right.

Young Colt Foundered.

M. L., Minnesota: Bathe the colt's legs in water that is pretty warm, twice a day for three or four days. Dip flannels in warm vinegar, and make a single wrap from fetlock to above the knee. Then re-wrap with dry flannel. Keep this on for a week. The colt must be kept where it will not get wet or chilled.

Relative Value of Certain Vegetables for Stock.

N. G. K., Oregon: The figures below give the comparative number of pounds, of each substance, according to Mr. Allen, to equal in effect that of any standard foodstuff, for instance, that of hay: Good hay, to give a certain nourishment, requires 100 pounds; good clover hay will give same effect by the use of 95 pounds; rye straw will give the same effect by the use of 355 pounds; oats straw, by the use of 220 pounds; potatoes, by the use of 195 pounds; carrots, by the use of 280 pounds; beets, by the use of 346 pounds; ruta-bagas, by the use of 393 pounds. The yield of potatoes varies like other crops, according to soil, manuring and season. They yield eight to ten tons per acre, carrots about 250 to 300 bushels, beets from five to twenty tons. Turnips are on the whole more valuable for mild weather feeding than the ruta-baga, yet it does not have the same effect in use as the ruta-baga.

The Langshan Fowl.

R. B., Pennsylvania: The Langshan is an excellent fowl. Its flesh is more like that of the turkey than any other kind of chicken.

Profuse Staling.

D. B. S., Putnam county, Ohio: For this trouble, take of opium, pulverized, ½ oz.; sulphate of iron, 1 oz.; gentian root, pulverized, 1 oz. Mix with molasses, and divide into six balls, one to be given every day.

Spring Knees.

O. B. T., Lackawanna county, Pa.: It may be said that six of seven horses with spring knees are affected with corns. Examine for these. When they are removed, the heels are brought to the ground, and the limb becomes straight.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Girdling Trees.

EDITOR BLADE FARMSTEAD:—The proper time to girdle trees of any nature is the longest day in the year.—E. REYNOLDS, Wisconsin.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Planting Walnuts.

The *Country Gentleman*, in reply to a correspondent, says: Walnuts reproduce nearly the same nuts from planting the seed, but there may be slight variations from varieties of unusual character. There will not be such great deviation from the seed as often occurs in raising apples and pears. They may be planted either in autumn or spring, provided they have been kept sufficiently moist from the time they have matured; if allowed to become dry and hard for several weeks after ripening they will not grow. Hence the advantage of planting in autumn, the light covering with soil preventing drying; but care should be taken to guard against mice. If kept through winter they may be covered and mixed out of doors with moss, light earth, leaves or litter.

Injurious Fungi.

Professor B. D. Halsted concluded a lecture on Injurious Fungi, delivered before the Ohio Horticultural society, with a suggestion that we should not trust to fungicides alone for the eradication of plant-diseases. He said that healthy plants of strong stock, well fed and not overworked by undue cropping, are the best allies to withstand the inroads of enemies of every sort. The half-starved plant is no better able to struggle among the vicissiundes of life than the ill-fed and half-sick man. Blights overcome the one as scurvy does the other. Therefore the best conditions for the production of profitable crops are the same as those that will most assist in warding off its fungous enemies.

Talmage's Sermon.

THAT ALLURES YOUNG MEN TO RUIN

The Precepts and Teachings of the Bible the Only Safe Guide For Young Men to Follow.

Dr. Talmage preached this week at Ann Arbor, Mich., a vast army of students listening to him on Sunday night.

His text was Proverbs i, 12: "Surely the net is spread in vain in the sight of any bird."

Early in the morning I went out with a fowler to catch wild pigeons. We hastened through the mountain gorge and into the forest. We spread out the net, and covered up the edges of it as well as we could. We arranged the call bird, its feet fast, and its wings flapping in invitation to all fowls of heaven to settle down there. We retired into a booth of branches and leaves and waited. After a while, looking out of the door of the booth, we saw a flock of birds in the sky. They came nearer and nearer, and after a while were about to swoop into the net when suddenly they darted away. Again we waited. After a while we saw another flock of birds. They came nearer and nearer until just at the moment when they were about to swoop they darted away. The fowler was very much disappointed as well as myself. We said to each other, "What is the matter?" and "Why were not these birds caught?" We went out and examined the net, and by the flutter of a branch of the tree part of the net had been conspicuously exposed, and the birds coming very near had seen their peril and darted away. When I saw that, I said to the old fowler, "That reminds me of a passage of Scripture: 'Surely in vain is the net spread in the sight of any bird.'" Now the net in my text stands for temptation.

The call-bird of sin tempts men on from point to point and from branch to branch until they are about to drop into the net. If a man finds out in time that it is the temptation of the devil, or that evil men are attempting to capture his soul for time and for eternity, the man steps back. He says, "I am not to be caught in that way; I see what you are about; surely in vain is the net spread in the sight of any bird."

There are two classes of temptations—the superficial and the subterraneous—those above ground and those under ground. If a man could see sin as it is, he would no more embrace it than he would embrace a leper. Sin is a daughter of hell, yet she is garlanded and robed and trinketed. Her voice is a warble. Her cheek is the setting sun. Her forehead is an aurora. She says to men: "Come, walk this path with me; it is thymed and primrosed, and the air is bewitched with the odors of the hanging gardens of heaven; the rivers are rivers of wine, and all you have to do is to drink them up in chalices that sparkle with diamonds and amethyst and chrysoprasus. See! It is all bloom and roseate cloud and heaven." Oh, my friends, if for one moment the chroning of all these concerted voices of sin could be hushed, we should see the orchestra of the pit with hot breath blowing through fiery flute, and the skeleton arms on drums of thunder and darkness beating the chorus: "The end thereof is death."

I want to point out the insidious temptations that are assailing more especially young men. The only kind of nature comparatively free from temptation, so far as can judge, is the cold, hard, stingy, mean temperament. What would Satan do with such a man if he got him? Satan is not anxious to get a man who, after a while, may dispute with him the realm of everlasting meanness. It is the generous young man, the ardent young man, the warm-hearted young man, the social young man, that is in especial peril.

The first class of temptations that assails a young man is led on by the skeptic. He will not admit that he is an infidel or atheist. Oh, no, he is a "free-thinker;" he is one of your "liberal" men; he is free and easy in religion. Oh, how liberal he is; he is so "liberal" that he will give away the throne of eternal justice; he is so "liberal" that he would be willing to give God out of the universe; he is so "liberal" that he would give up his own soul and the souls of all his friends. Now, what more could you ask in the way of liberality? The victim of the skeptic has probably just come from the country, through the intervention of friends he had been placed in whom, on Saturday the skeptic says to him, "Well, what are you going to do to-morrow?" He says, "I am going to church." "Is it possible?" says the skeptic. "Well, I used to do those things; I was brought up, I suppose, as you were, in a religious family, and I believed all those things, but I got over it; the fact is, since I came to town I have read a great deal, and I have found that there are a great many things in the Bible that are ridiculous. Now, for instance, all that about the serpent being cursed to crawl in the garden of Eden because it had tempted our first parents: why, you see how absurd it is; you can tell from the very organization of the serpent that it had to crawl; it crawled before it was cursed just as well as it crawled afterwards; you can tell from its organization that it crawled. Then, all that story about the whale swallowing Jonah, or Jonah swallowing the whale, which was it? It don't make any difference, the thing is absurd; it is ridiculous to suppose that a man could have gone down through the jaws of a sea-monster and yet kept his life; why, his respiration would have been hindered; he would have been digested; the gastric juice would have dissolved the fibrine and coagulated albumen, and Jonah would have been changed from prophet into chyle. Then all that story about the miraculous conception—why, it is perfectly disgraceful. Oh! sir, I believe in the light of nature. This is the nineteenth century. Progress, sir, progress. I don't blame you, but after you have been in town as long as I have you will think just as I do."

Thousands of young men are going down under that process day by day, and there is only here and there a young man who can endure this artillery of scorn. They are giving up their Bibles. The light of nature! They have the light of nature in China; they have it in Hindostan; they have it in Ceylon. Flowers there, stars there, waters there, winds there, but no civilization, no homes, no happiness. Lancets to cut and Juggernauts to fall under, and hooks to swing on; but no happiness. I tell you, my young brother, we have to take a infidelity of some kind. We have to choose between four or five. Shall it be the Koran of the Mohammedan, or the Shaster of the Hindoo, or the Zendavesta of the Persian, or the Confucius writings of the Chinese, or the Holy Scriptures? Take what you will; God helping me, I will take the Bible. Light for all darkness. Rock for all foundation; balm for all wounds. A glory that lifts its pillars of fire over the wilderness march. Do not give up your Bible. These people scoff at you as though religion and the Bible were only for weak-minded people, you just tell them you are ashamed to be in the company of Burke the statesman, and Raphael the painter, and Thorwaldsen the sculptor, and Mozart the musician, and Blackstone the lawyer, and Bacon the philosopher, and Harvey the physician and John Milton the poet. Ask them what infidelity has ever done to lift the fourteen hundred millions of the race out of barbarism. Ask them when infidelity every instituted a sanitary commission; and, before you leave their society once and forever, tell them that they have insulted the memory of your Christian father, and spit up the death-bed of your mother, and with swine's snout rooted up the grave of your sister who died believing in the Lord Jesus.

Young man, hold on to your bible. It will tell you how to dress, how to bargain, how to walk, how to act, how to live, how to die. Glorious bible! whether on parchment or paper, in octavo or duodecimo, on the center table of the drawing room or in the counting room of the banker. Glorious bible! Light to our feet and lamp to our path. Hold on to it!

The second class of insidious temptation that comes upon our young men is led on by the dishonest employer. Every commercial establishment is a school. In nine cases out of ten, the principles of the employer become the principles of the employe. I ask the older merchants to bear me out in these statements: If, when you were just starting in life, in commercial life, you were told that honesty was not marketable, that though you might sell all the goods in the shop, you must not sell your conscience, that while you were to exercise all industry and tact, you were not to sell your conscience—if you were taught that gains gotten by sin were combustible, and at the moment of ignition would be blown on by the breath of God until all the splendid estate would vanish into white ashes scattered in the whirlwind—then that instruction has been to you a precaution and a help ever since. There are hundreds of commercial establishments in our great cities which are educating a class of young men who will be the honor of the land, and there are other establishments which are educating young men to be nothing but sharpers. What chance is there for a young man who was taught in an establishment that it is right to lie, if it is smart, and that a French label is all that is necessary to make a thing French, and that you always ought to be honest when it pays, and that it is wrong to steal unless you do it well? Suppose, now, a young man just starting in life enters a place of that kind where there are ten young men, all drilled in the infamous practices of the establishment. He is ready to be taught. The young man has no theory of commercial ethics. Where is he to get his theory? He will get the theory from his employers. One day he pushes his wit a little beyond what the establishment demanded of him, and he fleeces a customer until the clerk is on the verge or being seized by the law. What is done in the establishment? He is not arraigned. The head of the establishment says to him: "Now, be careful, be careful, young man, you might be caught; but really that was splendidly done; you will get along in the world, I warrant you." Then that young man goes up until he becomes head clerk. He had found there was a premium on iniquity.

One morning the employer comes to the establishment. He goes into his counting-room and throws up his hands and shouts: "Why the safe has been robbed!" What is the matter? Nothing, nothing; only the clerk who has been practicing a good while on customers is practicing a little on the employer. No new principle introduced into that establishment. It is a poor rule that will not work both ways. You must never steal unless you can do it well. He did it well. I am not talking an abstraction, I am talking a terrible and crushing fact.

I stand before young men this morning who are under this pressure. I say, come out of it. "Oh!" you say, "I can't; I have my widowed mother to support, and if a man loses his situation now he can't get another one." I say, come out of it. Go home to your mother and say to her, "Mother, I can't stay in that shop and be upright; what shall I do?" and if she is worthy of you she will say, "come out of it, my son—we will just throw ourselves on him who hath promised to be the God of the widow and the father-less; he will take care of us." And I tell you no young man ever permanently suffered by such a course of conduct.

There is a mistake we make about young men. We put them in two classes; the one class is moral, the other is dissolute. The moral are safe. The dissolute cannot be reclaimed. I deny both propositions. The moral are not safe unless they have laid hold of God, and the dissolute may be reclaimed. I suppose there are self-righteous men in this house who feel no need of God, and will not seek after him, and they will go out in the world and they will be tempted, and they will be flung down by misfortune, and they will go down, down, down, until some night you will see them going home hooting, raving, shouting blasphemy—going home to their sister, going home to the young companion to whom, only a little while ago, in the presence of a brilliant assemblage, flashing lights, and orange blossoms, and censers swinging in the air, they promised fidelity and purity and kindness perpetual. As that man reaches the door she will open it, not with an outcry, but she will stagger back from the door as he comes in, and in her look there will be the prophecy of woes that are coming, want that will shiver in need of fire, hunger that will cry in vain for bread, cruelties that will not leave the heart when they have crushed it, but pinch it again, and stab it again, until some night she will open the door of the place where her companion was ruined, and she will fling out her arm from under her ragged shawl and say, with almost omnipotent eloquence, "Give me back my husband! Give me back my protector! Give me back my all!" Him of the kind heart and gentle words, and the manly brow—Give him back to me!" And the wretches, obese and filthy, will push back their matted locks, and they will say, "Put her out! Put her out!" Oh! self-righteous man, without God you are in peril. Seek after him to-day. Amid the ten thousand temptations of life there is no safety for a man without God.

But I may be addressing some who have gone astray, and so I assault that other proposition that the dissolute cannot be reclaimed. Perhaps you have only gone a little astray. While I speak are you troubled? Is there a voice within you saying, "What did you do that for? Why did you go there? What did you mean by that?" Is there a memory in your soul that makes you tremble? God only knows all our hearts. Yea, if you have gone so far as to commit iniquities, and have gone through the whole catalogue, I invite you back this hour. The Lord waits for you. "Rejoice, O, young man, in thy youth, and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, but know thou that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment." Come home, young man, to your father's God. Come home, young man, to your mother's God. O! I wish that all the batteries of the gospel could to-day be unlimbered against all those influences which are taking down so many of our young men. I would like to blow a trumpet of warning, and recruit until this whole audience would march out on a crusade against the evils of society. But let none of us be disheartened. O! Christian workers, my heart is high with hope. The dark horizon is blooming into the morning of which prophets spoke, and of which poets have dreamed, and of which painters have sketched. The world's bridal hour advances. The mountains will kiss the morning radiant and effulgent, and all the waves of the sea will become the crystal keys of a great organ, on which the fingers of everlasting joy shall play the grand march of a world redeemed. Instead of the thorn there shall come up the fir tree, and instead of the brier there shall come up the myrtle tree, and the mountains and the hills shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the wood shall clap their hands!

Cause and Effect.

Sam Knott
He sot
On stump
Near clump
Of trees
At ease,
Nor thought
Of ought
But sweet
Retreat
That lent
Content.

A Goat
Did note
His coze,
And seize
The chance
To prance
Upon
The son
Great Scott!
Sam Knott
Did fly
Sky high.
—[Boston Courier.

EVERY FAMILY

Should be provided with Ayer's Pills. No other aperient is in such general demand or so highly recommended by the profession. Mild but thorough in operation, these pills are the best of all remedies for constipation, biliousness, heartburn, indigestion, flatulency, loss of appetite, liver complaint, and sick headache. They break up colds, fevers, and malaria, relieve rheumatism and neuralgia, and are indispensable to travelers, either by land or sea. Sugar-coated and compounded of the purest vegetable cathartics, they may be taken with impunity by old and young. Physicians recommend these pills in preference to any other. H. W. Hersh, Judsonia, Ark., says: "In 1853, by the advice of a friend, I began the use of Ayer's Pills as a remedy for biliousness, constipation, high fevers, and colds. They served me better than anything I had previously tried, and I have used them in attacks of that sort ever since."

Needs

Ayer's Cathartic Pills

Every Dose Effective.

The Camp Fire.

☞Contributions are solicited from old soldiers of the civil war for this department. We don't want discussions, or recriminations, or abuse; but we do want brief, lively sketches and personal reminiscences of army life.

The Blade's Souvenir.

Every old soldier will be interested in THE BLADE souvenir teaspoon, the back of which is shown on the 5th page. It is of solid sterling silver, and in the bowl is a fine bas-relief of the Toledo Memorial hall, the first building ever erected in memory of the brave "Boys in Blue." The patriotic citizens of Toledo, instead of putting up a soldiers' monument, built this splendid edifice in the heart of the city. It is a memorial building of which every soldier and every citizen of Toledo is justly proud. On the back of THE BLADE souvenir teaspoon is a facsimile of the famous sword made in Toledo, Spain, and presented to the late D. R. Locke, when he was editor of THE BLADE, by the Spanish commissioners of the Philadelphia Centennial, in 1876. The sword bears the words "Toledo Blade," in raised letters, thus making the spoon not only a souvenir of Toledo, but of THE BLADE as well. To any one sending us $5, with five yearly subscribers to THE BLADE, we will send one of these beautiful spoons free of cost. Or we will send THE BLADE one year, and a spoon, on receipt of $3; or we will send the spoon alone for $2.50.

One of the Deluded.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—Immediately after the battle of Gettysburg, I went to the old barn in which so many wounded rebel soldiers were being cared for. And what a sickening sight I beheld as I stepped in at the door! Some, whose limbs had been amputated, were lying in an unconscious stupor, while others, with torn and shattered members, were being examined with a view of saving their mangled limbs as far as possible. Surgeons were hurrying here and there, giving directions to attendants, and all were working like beavers. While taking in the horrible scene, I saw a hand beckoning to me, from a cot some distance from where I was standing. Wondering who it could be that wanted me, I walked over to the cot, and found it occupied by a rebel captain, who had been shot through the fleshy parts of both thighs. He extended his hand, and asked if I would be so kind as to let him put his arms around my neck, so he could turn over. To this I cheerfully assented, and as soon as he had moved sufficient to give him rest he began talking to me. He said he knew as soon as he saw me that I would help him. He then began to talk about the war. He said it was a shame and disgrace to the American people, and that it never would have happened had it not been for the Southern "fire-eaters" and the Northern carpet-baggers. Then he gave me a history of the enthusiastic meetings he had attended, before he enlisted, at which he was told again and again that he could whip and scare any five or ten Northern Yanks until he believed it. He said it was seven months after his regiment organized before he saw a Yank. Finally they heard of a detached regiment, and marched all night, and got into position at daylight. "We were told to get our breakfasts as soon as possible," said he, "but I was so excited that I could not eat, and threw away most all my food. I found nearly all the boys were feeling about as I did, so we soon reported ourselves in readiness. We were moved to a point where we could see a little line of dirt not larger than a good-sized plow furrow. Our colonel said the Yanks were down there in about our own numbers. 'And now boys,' said the colonel, 'go in with a whoop, and yell, and you will see more fun than you have ever before seen! When the Yankees begin to run, each one of you select his man, and either capture him or kill him.'

"Well, we started, and down we went in line till within a short distance, when up rose the Yanks—and my God, what a welcome they gave us! On we went, flourishing and screeching, till within a few feet of them, when we stopped."

"Well," said I, "what did you stop for; why didn't you go on?"

"Good heavens!" said he. "You wouldn't ask a man to run square onto a wall of bayonets, fixed as firm as the Rock of Ages, would you?"

"Why," said I, "didn't they run?"

"Not much! But I will tell you what they did do. While we were trying to scare them out, I heard their colonel order: 'Forward! Double quick! Charge bayonets!' Over they came, and we had to climb, and don't you forget it! After we had got a safe distance between us, we went into camp; but I went off by myself and thought of all I had been told about the Yanks. Then I went to the colonel and asked him if those were the kind of Yanks our boys had to deal with. 'Yes,' said he, 'I suppose they are.' 'If that is so, colonel, you have been lying to me!'"

Continuing in this strain, the captain said: "I have been in several battles since then, but have never seen a Yank run, unless he had to, and in such case I would have run myself. Then we had been told that it would never do to be captured—we must fight to the end; that the Northern doctors were a set of dough-heads, and had no respect for a Southerner more than what his carcass was worth to experiment on. But since I have been here I have not been idle. And I know there has not been going on, and I know there has not been one single limb destroyed, or a life sacrificed, that seemed possible to save; and more, they have done all in their power to allay the sufferings of these poor boys. Hundreds of noble girls and matrons besides have come here with lint, rolls of bandages and baskets of dainties. And how freely have they lent their loving hands to make us more comfortable by looks of anguish, and loving and consoling words, while they placed their soft, cool hands upon the fevered brows. I tell you, my friend, when I witness these things I know that somebody has done the Northern people a terrible wrong, by lying about them to us poor devils, who never had the opportunity of knowing better. Never shall I forget the loving care extended to me, and to all of us, in this old barn."

At this juncture I informed the captain that my time of departure was at hand, and added: "These mothers and sisters who are extending to yourself and comrades so much mercy and love, many of them have sent their sons and brothers to the front, with these injunctions: 'Spare the lives of your mistaken brothers as far as possible, but with your honor and your lives defend the flag given to us by the immortal Washington!'"

"I don't see how I shall be able to stand up and fight these mothers' sons again," the captain added. "Besides, I am sure this nation is safe in such hands." While the tears trickled down his cheeks, and my own eyes were needing the frequent use of a handkerchief, the captain grasped my hand and I bade him good-bye, telling him to hope for the best. I have often regretted that I did not exchange addresses with him, and would be very glad to know if he is yet alive.—J. J. AMBLER, Co. F, 13th Iowa V. V. I.

Saved the Flag.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—During the fall of 1863, the 9th Md. Infty., belonging to Gen. Sullivan's brigade, was posted in the town of Charleston, (of John Brown fame) together with two companies of Maryland cavalry, under orders to hold the town while the brigade remained at Harper's Ferry, eight miles distant. The regiment was a small one, and one cold frosty morning in November, the wide-awake rebel, Gen. Emboden, with 2,000 cavalry and a battery, surrounded our isolated regiment and we were forced to surrender.

We had shortly before that received a new flag, but still retained the old one. Sergt. Ben Swear was our color sergeant. When he realized that surrender was inevitable, and that it meant the loss of our new flag, he ran into an old shed, stripped the new emblem from its staff, wrapped it around his body, next his skin, and put on his clothing over it. Then he walked out and surrendered the old flag to the rebels with all the grace he could muster. Emboden lost no time, but started his prisoners out on the road towards Mount Jackson, and for twenty miles he kept them on the run until they were exhausted and well out of the way of the sleepy general and his brigade at Harper's Ferry. The general stopped on a hillside that night, and the rebels, true to their nature, began to strip our boys of their warm clothing and valuables; but Sergt. Swear escaped being striped under pretense of having the small pox, and thus took our flag safely through to Belle Isle, where he buried it in the sand. The water, however, came up and washed one corner of the flag bare, so the sergeant dug it up in the night and put it around his body again, and took it through to Andersonville, where he managed to preserve it until exchanged in June, 1864. The last known of Sergeant Swear, he was in St. Louis, and still held that flag. A delegation of Wilson post No. 1, of Baltimore, went to St. Louis to get it for their post-room, as they hold all the Maryland battle-flags; but Sergt. Swear refused to give it up while he lived. That flag should be in the procession at the next G. A. R. encampment, at Washington, and Sergt. Swear should be color-bearer with a guard of his old Andersonville comrades around him.—WILSON J. PURVIS, 9th Md. Inft.

Yazoo Pass Again.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—In reply to Comrade Elisas Chapman, 10th Iowa, I would say he is a little mistaken in regard to the Yazoo Pass expedition. I was one of the "happy boys" who went through the woods on that memorable occasion. We left the sand bar on Tuesday, March 24, 1863, at 8 o'clock a. m. I was aboard the Tecumseh, and that boat stuck in the mouth of the pass. The other boats all slid against the Tecumseh, but in a half hour or so our boat was released, and we sailed into Moon lake, where we remained all night. The next day we proceeded up the pass proper. The comrade says we were gone three days; but my recollection is that we started March 24, and returned to the Mississippi river April 10, at 2 p. m., and landed on the sand-bar from which we started, having been absent 18 days. There were twelve transports and two gunboats. The gunboats were the Conjeriet and Chillicothe. There were twelve regiments of troops engaged in the pedition, and I could call to mind the name of every boat, but will desist. I merely wish to correct the comrade in regard to the length of time we were engaged.—I. D. MORGAN, Co. B, Tenth Missouri Infantry.

Which Is Right.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—It has been said that the 8th Iowa Inft. came into camp at Shiloh late in the evening before the battle; that they had no arms, and that they stood their ground until nearly all were shot down. My neighbor says it was the 16th Iowa, instead of the 8th. I say, however, that the 8th was in position to the left of my regiment, the 61st Ills., Gen. Prentiss. I would like to hear from comrades of both regiments in regard to the matter. My regiment was at the side of a little field. After we formed the line of battle we marched across that field, fired one round, then fell back to the camp, where we made a stand, but soon fell back again.—O. P. MYRICK, 61st Ills.

Stray Shots.

Frank L. Thomson:—Your sketch will appear next week.

Mosby D. Marsh:—The comrade of the 3d Tenn. lives in Corley, Arkansas.

Comrade (no name given), Knox, Ind:—The address of the comrade you speak of is Crowson, Lawrence Co., Tenn.

Comrade O. A. Bunker, Co. I, 38th Iowa Vols., says:—"I had long watched the Camp Fire columns for word from one of the 38th, and when I read Comrade Dow Bayes's recent letter I was much pleased. We served in the same company, but I did not notice him particularly until we reached Benton Barracks, of which Dan Knight speaks in his 'Echoes of Co. C.' While there, Dow procured an old violin, and after breaking about a dozen strings, finally got her tuned up to my B-flat fife. Then we began to think that the war was not so bad after all."

To purify
Your blood
Take Hood's Sarsaparilla.

TOUCHED A DEAD GAMBLER

And it Cured Her of Her Betting Propensities.

They had been listening to Wagner's Lohengrin and had been feasting their eyes on the beautiful scene on the Auditorium stage, says the Chicago *Herald*. After the fall of the curtain on the first act they walked about the foyer, chatting about music and dresses and exchanging reminiscences of their latest European tours. Each was attired in one of Worth's most artistic gowns, and both women were aglow with that content and self-satisfaction which comes from the knowledge of being the cynosure of all feminine eyes in the theatre.

"Did you go to Monte Carlo when you were in Europe?" asked the taller of the two, a brunette, like her companion.

"Yes, but Charley would not let me play in the Casino, though I just wanted ever so much to go through the experience. He said that I would become fascinated and would spend all the money he had given me without getting a return. I think it was just his old instinctive instincts—a desire to get something for something—which made him so obstinate in his refusal."

"Well, I had an experience there which killed my desire for gambling," resumed the tall brunette. "I had been to the Casino to study the faces which one sees around the tables, but one day I was prompted by curiosity to learn what there was in this mad passion which attracted the same people every day to stake their fortunes. I tried roulette, and like most beginners I won. When I left the table I had a little heap of gold pieces. I went again and again to the tables, sometimes losing but oftener winning.

"You know how superstitious those dreadful gamblers are. Well, one day I tried to get my old seat at the roulette table, but I found it occupied by a man whom I had seen several times staking his money with great eagerness. He had a little pile by his side which gradually dwindled down. He persisted in playing one number, and he invariably lost. A look of despair settled on his face as he put his last gold coin on the number. The others players were rather slow in staking their money, and the man in front of me leaned his head on his arms as it careless of the result of the next whirl. This time he won, but he did not raise his head when the croupier called out that the game was over. I was eager to get my seat, and thinking that he would go as soon as he took up his winnings I touched him on the shoulder and told him he had won. But he was asleep, apparently. The croupier leaned over, and tapping him sharply with his rake, he said: 'Wake up, monsieur; we do not al ow anyone to sleep here.' Still the gambler kept quiet with his face buried in his hands. The croupier got up and shook him angrily. Then becoming alarmed, he raised the gambler's head. The face was of ashen hue, the eyes were dull and lusterless.

"The gambler was dead!

"I stood ered, and mechanically dropped into the chair after the body had been taken away, the feeling of horror soon giving way to the gambling passion, which now had fairly seized me. But as I was about to place my first stake a man leaned over my shoulder and said: 'Madam will surely not play to-day. She will not have the luck after touching a dead body.' His words chilled my ardor, and rising hastily from the table I found my way to the hotel in a half dazed manner. The horror of that scene came back to me as I sat in my room. Lucky or unlucky, I never went near the Casino after that, and have determined never to gamble again."

"How dreadful to die after winning so much money," murmured the petite brunette. And then they wandered through the foyer gossiping with friends until the curtain rose."

A Wonderful Thing.

Love is a wonderful thing. It enables a girl to occupy her fellow's heart and his lap at the same time.—[Binghamton Leader.

Rival of the Black Bottle.

If, as the dress reformers say, "corsets have filled more graves than whisky," it is presumably because they have been tight.—[Retailer and Jobber.

Have You Got Piles

$100.00 FOR AN INCURABLE CASE. Itching Piles Known by moisture like perspiration, cause intense itching when warm. This form and Blind, Bleeding, or Protruding Piles YIELD AT ONCE TO DR. BOSANKO'S PILE REMEDY, which acts directly on parts affected, absorbs tumors, allays itching, and effects a permanent cure. 50c. Druggists, or mail. Circular free. Dr. Bosanko Med. Co. Philadelphia, Pa

The Sunday School.

Fourth Quarterly Review.

LESSON XIII., SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1891.

TITLES AND GOLDEN TEXTS.

Golden text for the quarter:—These are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.—John 20:31.

I. CHRIST RAISING LAZARUS.

Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life.—John 11:25.

II. CHRIST FORETELLING HIS DEATH.

And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.—John 12:32.

III. WASHING THE DISCIPLES' FEET.

Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.—Phil. 2:5.

IV. CHRIST COMFORTING HIS DISCIPLES.

I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever.—John 14:16.

V. CHRIST THE TRUE VINE.

Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit.—John 15:8.

VI. THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

He will guide you into all truth.—John 16:13.

VII. CHRIST'S PRAYER FOR HIS DISCIPLES.

He ever liveth to make intercession for them.—Heb. 7:25.

VIII. CHRIST BETRAYED.

The Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.—Mark 14:41.

IX. CHRIST BEFORE PILATE.

Who was delivered for our offenses, and raised again for our justification.—Rom. 4:25.

X. CHRIST CRUCIFIED.

For Christ also hath once suffered for sins.—1 Pet. 3:18.

XI. CHRIST RISEN.

It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again.—Rom. 8:34.

XII. THE RISEN CHRIST AND HIS DISCIPLES.

If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.—Col. 3:1.

REVIEW HINTS FOR THE PRIMARY TEACHER.

Golden text for review: "These are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name." No other lesson can be so appropriate for the Christmas season as a review of the life of Christ. Who wrote this Gospel we have studied for half a year? Why does our golden text say it was written? No one knew better the words of Christ than John the beloved disciple; no one who was with him on earth came nearer to his heart, and from his writings we have studied the life-story of the Son of Man on earth, and the words and works which prove him to be the Christ the Son of God.

Jesus in the Beginning.—Because Jesus came from Heaven to show the mind and heart of God toward us, he was called the Word. In the very first verse of the book of John, what three things does he say of the Word? By whom did he say all things were made? John means to tell us that in the very beginning, before ever the worlds were made, Jesus the Son of God was in Heaven with God; it was one God, the Father and the Son, who made all things, the earth and the people.

Jesus Made Flesh.—The people sinned; to save them from being punished, Jesus said, "I will take the form of man, and go to earth to teach of God the Father; and to save them from sin I will die for them." So Jesus came, a child in Bethlehem, whose birthday we have just been keeping. What can you tell of the Bethlehem shepherds and the wise men, of the cruel king and the angel message to save the infant Jesus?

Jesus Baptized.—Before he began his work as teacher and preacher he was baptized. Had Jesus any need to repent? What did he say he must fulfill? What words from heaven were spoken as Jesus was baptized? What descended in the form of a dove? God the Father, God the Son, God the Spirit, all together proved that Jesus, the Son of God, was ready to begin his work on earth, that all who would believe might have life through his name.

Jesus's Disciples.—Who were the brothers of Jesus first called to follow him? How many disciples did he choose? Which one was always ready to speak? Which was the one whom Jesus loved? Who betrayed him?

Jesus's Wondrous Works. What do we call the wonders or signs which he did that none but God could do? What was the first miracle Jesus did? What were some of his works of compassion? What did he do for the hungry? Tell of any whom he cured by a touch, by a word. How many who were dead did he bring back to life? What seems to you the most wonderful miracle he ever did?

Jesus's Wondrous Word. We can only recall some of them in one review lesson. Every day he spoke words of wisdom, love, help, forgiveness; even his enemies said, "Never man spake like this man." With whom did he talk beside the well in Samaria? Who came to him by night? What reason did Jesus give Nicodemus why God gave his only Son? What did Jesus call himself as he talked to the multitude whom he had fed? While he did he say to thirsty souls on the last great day of the feast? What did Jesus say the good shepherd would give for his sheep? What of the sheep and the shepherd's voice? What were some of his words to Martha when her brother lay in the grave?

Jesus's Words to his Disciples.—How had Jesus taught the disciples a lesson when he said: "The servant is not greater than his lord?" What were some of his words of comfort when he talked of heart-trouble? What did he promise when he said: "If a man love me he will keep my words?" How did he talk of the vine and the branches? To whom did he say: "Abide in me?" What comforter did he promise? How did he say the spirit would guide? What question did he ask when he found his disciples asleep in the garden where he had asked them to watch? As they sat together in the upper room, what did he ask them to do in remembrance of him?

Jesus's Words of Prayer.—We have learned some of the words he spoke in prayer. At whose grave did Jesus lift up his eyes and pray to his Father? How did he pray when he had foretold his death and a voice from heaven spoke? What were some of the things for which he prayed with his disciples in the upper room? Was any of that prayer for you and for me? For whom did he pray while he hung on the cross?

Jesus's Words of Love.—Do you find any love in Jesus's saying "the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep?" Can any one measure the meaning of his saying, "As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you?" May we claim the promise, "If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love?" To whom did he say, "I have called you friends?" Was it love when he said, "Where I am, there ye may be also?" What did Jesus say about "laying down his life for his friends?"

Jesus Before His Enemies.—Who betrayed him? To whom had Judas agreed to deliver him? How was Jesus mocked? How robed and crowned? What did Pilate say of him? When was he led away to be crucified? What day and hour did he give up his life?

Jesus Buried.—Where was he buried? By whom? Was the tomb made sure? Why? Who came to the tomb early on the first day of the week? How had the stone been rolled away? Who else came and found the sepulcher empty?

Jesus Risen.—To whom did Jesus first appear on the morning he arose? How many times was he seen by his friends on that day? Where did he appear to his disciples when they were gathered together? Why were the doors of the room fastened? Could it have been any other than Jesus who said, "Peace be unto you"? What proof did he show in his hands and feet and side? What did he do to show that it was indeed the same Jesus who had slept and talked, walked and eaten with them? How many disciples did Jesus meet on the shore of the Sea of Galilee? When he asked them to come to a morning meal, and they saw a fire of coals, and fish and bread, were they sure it was their Master with them again? When Thomas saw the print of the nail, and said, "My Lord and my God," Jesus said to him, "Because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed." Are you among the blessed ones who have learned and believed? Then indeed you have a share in the promise of life through his name. All the words of love, of forgiveness, of prayer, are for those who believe, as truly now as when Jesus told Nicodemus of God's love for the world.—[Faith Latimer in S. S. Times.

SUNDAY MUSINGS.

BY THE ORGANIST.

To me our pastor like an organ is,
Each sermon all its fellows overtops,
He knows the keys, the pedals and the swells,
Yet seems unable to apply the stops.

BY THE USHER.

I understand the timbre of his voice,
And measure it to ears infirm,
The godless in front seats I place,
That there they may be made to squirm.

BY THE SEXTON.

To me the pastor is an old, old friend,
We meet at font, at altar, and at bier,
We christen, marry and lay away
The dust of all who worship here.
—N. Y. Herald.

Worse Than Bookworms.

It is said that the use of gas in libraries causes the destruction of the leather bindings on the books.

Beauty often depends on plumpness; so does comfort; so does health. If you get thin, there is something wrong, though you may feel no sign of it.

Thinness itself is a sign; sometimes the first sign; sometimes not.

The way to get back plumpness is by CAREFUL LIVING, which sometimes includes the use of Scott's Emulsion of cod-liver oil.

Let us send you—free—a little book which throws much light on all these subjects.

SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists, 132 South 5th Avenue, New York.

Your druggist keeps Scott's Emulsion of cod-liver oil—all druggists everywhere do. 91. 28

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MISCELLANEOUS.

IF you wish to advertise anything anywhere at any time write to GEO. P. ROWELL & CO., No. 10 Spruce st., N. Y.

OPIUM Morphine Habit Cured in 10 to 20 days. No pay till cured. Dr. J. Stephens, Lebanon, O.

The Mormon Elders' Book of strength, mailed free to married men, address F. B. Crouch, 202 Grand St., New York

DEAFNESS AND HEAD NOISES CURED by Peck's Invisible Tubular Ear Drums. Whispers heard. When all remedies fail. Send for book of proofs FREE. F. HISCOX, 853 B'way, N.Y. Write for book of proofs FREE

DOUBLE Breech-Loader $7.99. RIFLES $2.00 PISTOLS 75c **GUNS** All Kinds cheaper than elsewhere. Before you buy, send 10c. for illustrated Catalogue to The Wells Chemical Co. 106 Main Street, WATCHES, BICYCLES, &c. Cincinnati, Ohio.

EVERY one in need of information on the subject of advertising will do well to obtain a copy of "Book for Advertisers," 368 pages, price one dollar. Mailed, postage paid, on receipt of price. Contains a careful compilation from the American Newspaper Directory of all the best papers and class journals; gives the circulation rating of every one, and a good deal of information about rates and other matters pertaining to the business of advertising. Address ROWELL'S ADVERTISING BUREAU, 10 Spruce St., N. Y.

CONSUMPTION.

I have a positive remedy for the above disease; by its use thousands of cases of the worst kind and of long standing have been cured. Indeed so strong is my faith in its efficacy, that I will send TWO BOTTLES FREE, with a VALUABLE TREATISE on this disease to any sufferer who will send me their Express and P. O. address. T. A. Slocum, M. C., 183 Pearl St., N. Y.

ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA
HOTEL BELMONT.

The finest Winter Health Resort in the South. Rivaling mountain air, mineral water, Jersey cream and milk, creamery butter, tenderloin steak and a resident physician.
Write for the balance.
JOHN S. MARSHALL, M. D., Director.

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THE DISABILITY BILL IS A LAW.

Soldiers Disabled Since the War are Entitled

Dependent widows and parents now dependent whose sons died from effects of army service are included. If you wish your claims speedily and successfully prosecuted, address JAMES TANNER, Late Commissioner of Pensions, Washington, D.C

I CURE FITS!

When I say cure I do not mean merely to stop them for a time and then have them return again. I mean a radical cure. I have made the disease of FITS, EPILEPSY or FALLING SICKNESS a lifelong study. I warrant my remedy to cure the worst cases. Because others have failed is no reason for not now receiving a cure. Send at once for a treatise and a Free Bottle of my infallible remedy. Give Express and Post Office. H. G. ROOT, M. C., 183 Pearl St., N. Y.

FOUND in Galveston, Tex., an old coin worth $5,000. A Boston Baker paid $2.40 for an old coin, $13,389. We can prove that others have done nearly as well. Coin Collecting Pays Big. If you have any Old Coins or proofs coined before 1878, save them, as they might be worth a great deal. Illustrated circulars on rare coins free at office or mailed for two stamps. WANTED. AGENT

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1891.

Largest and Best Weekly Published, and Largest Circulation!

TOLEDO BLADE CO.....Publishers.
ROBINSON LOCKE.....Editor.

THE BLADE is a weekly newspaper for intelligent American citizens. It aims to cover, each week, all news topics of real interest to all wide-awake and thinking men. Its editorial page is the strongest and most thoughtful of any in the United States. Its special departments are carefully edited, and the whole paper is intended for the homes of the free American people.

TERMS—Postage Paid:

Single copy, weekly, one year, $1.00; six months, 60 cents; three months, 30 cents. Write for club terms.

SPECIMEN COPIES sent, postpaid, free, to any address. Send for one, and at the same time give us the address of a dozen or so of your friends. Address

THE BLADE, TOLEDO, OHIO.

☞ ENTERED AT THE POSTOFFICE AT TOLEDO AS SECOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER.

CIRCULATION LAST WEEK, 118,000.

A NOVEL OFFER.

On the fifth page of this issue will be found the picture of THE BLADE souvenir tea spoon, the cut showing the back of the spoon, containing a fac simile of the famous sword, made in Toledo, Spain, and presented to the late D. R. LOCKE, by the Spanish Centennial Commissioners to the Philadelphia Exposition, in 1876. The front of the spoon bears the "Buckeye" of Ohio, and in the bowl is a fine bas-relief of the Toledo Memorial Hall, the first building ever erected in honor of the soldiers who fell during the rebellion. The spoon, same size as shown in the cut, is made of heavy solid sterling silver, and will last forever. Its regular retail price is $2.50. To any one sending us five subscribers to the Weekly BLADE and five dollars, we will send them one of these elegant spoons post paid. Or we will send a spoon and the Weekly BLADE one year on receipt of $3.00. Or the spoon alone for $2.50. These teaspoons will make beautiful Christmas presents. Address The Blade, Toledo, Ohio.

THE REMEDY FOR CRANKERY.

The murderous attack on RUSSELL SAGE, by a crank, with a dynamite bomb, has again sharply drawn public attention to crankery, and the newspapers teem with discussions as to preventive measures against such violence. A large number of these discussions are wide of the mark, because they are based on the theory that SAGE'S assailant was a lunatic, discharged as "cured" from an asylum. This is an error. The criminal was HENRY L. NORCROSS, a young broker of Boston, who had never been suspected of being insane. Indeed, it is a question whether he was insane. Probably not. He was a "crank," but crankery is not insanity.

There are in this world thousands of men like NORCROSS, who worship wealth, and desire its possession above everything else, but who, from lack of proper qualities, fail to get into a path that is strewn with gold. They grow embittered over failure, and charge it upon our social system, instead of upon themselves. They intensely envy wealthy men; they covet their gold; and from envy and covetousness it is but a step to hatred, and then to attempted robbery and murder.

No law can reach such men as a preventive. Some one said that in order to make a true gentleman it is necessary to begin with his grandfather; and in the same line of reasoning, to prevent a man's becoming a crank, it is necessary to begin with his parents. Early training or lack of training is responsible for the development of cranks. The moral side of their natures is not developed, or at least not properly.

It is not the social system that is in fault, it is the man himself. NORCROSS set up a false ideal, albeit a very, very common one, when he assumed that wealth was the only thing needful. Here is the field in which the Christian church should exert its influence. Some of the severest denunciations of our Savior were launched against the sins of envy and covetousness, and his teaching was clear that riches are valueless for their own sake, and that he who possesses them holds them, morally, not in fee but in trust for humanity. It is no answer to say that wealthy men do not generally take this view concerning their possessions. While it is true, it does not palliate in the slightest the crime of NORCROSS, and of others of the same class. It only emphasizes the fact that the Christian church needs to convert not only the poor, but the wealthy as well; and the lesson of the dynamite occurrence is that the church is failing to do its duty as a social and moral force in our latter-day civilization.

ANGLOMANIA IN OUR NAVY.

The people of the United States take so much pride in the new navy that it is humiliating to learn that the new cruiser Philadelphia is quite unseaworthy, and that the Charleston and the Baltimore are so topheavy that they are obliged to cruise with their water-bottoms filled with water as ballast. The reason for the practical failure of these three cruisers are not first-class vessels is to be found in the fact that Secretary WHITNEY, of CLEVELAND'S Cabinet, purchased the designs for them in England, instead of intrusting them to American designers.

It is a singular thing that the Democratic party, through its leading men, leans so strongly toward everything English. They want free trade because England wants it. The last administration—at least Secretary WHITNEY—seemed to adhere to the old idea that English productions are better than our own, and hence bought in that country designs for war vessels which, when carried out, resulted in the building of three vessels which are unsafe and therefore not to be depended upon. American skill in shipbuilding beats the rest of the world, and it is pleasing to note that the newer vessels are all from designs of Yankee shipbuilders.

SEND US NAMES!

We want a million names of persons who do not take THE BLADE, to whom we can send sample copies. We are receiving dozens of lists every day, but it takes a good many of them, even when they contain 100 to 200 names, to make a million. Send at once, that we may mail them copies with the first instalment of the new story.

A BERWICK, Penn., man has sued the opera house manager because his view of the stage was obstructed by two immense theater hats in front of him. Contributions from the sufferers from the nuisance in all parts of the country ought to flow in to the aid of the Berwick martyr. There are times when human patience ceases to be a virtue.

THE tin-plate works of the British trust, in Wales, are to run on half-time this winter. Why? Because the demand from this country has been so greatly reduced through the manufacture of tin plate here.

Vote Quickly!

For We Shall Soon Close the Polls on Republican Presidential Preferences.

Vote quickly, for the time is drawing on rapidly when we must bring our vote on Presidential preferences to a close. We shall be glad to have several thousand more votes. Please note the following suggestions:

We want only preferences for the *Republican* nomination.

We ask for first and second choice for the *Presidency*. We are not collecting preferences for Vice President, for that nomination is always made on geographical grounds. If the President is from the East, a Western man is nominated for Vice President, and *vice versa*.

You can send your vote in a letter, if you are writing to us on any other subject; but use a separate slip of paper, and be sure to put your name and address on it, or the person in charge of the vote can not use it.

We can say with entire truth that no newspaper in the United States was more influential in the campaign of 1888, than the Toledo BLADE; and we propose making it even more conspicuous as an advocate of Republicanism in next year's conflict. We believe that a vote given by the immense constituency of The Weekly BLADE, which goes to every state in the Union, will be most valuable as showing the drift of public opinion regarding this matter. We ask, therefore, every reader of THE BLADE to send us his views. Take a postal card and answer upon it.

Write, 1, the name of your first choice for the Republican Presidential nomination;

2, the name of your second choice for the same office;

Sign your name, with your postoffice address and put nothing else upon the card. Address it simply "THE BLADE, Toledo, O." The card will then appear thus:

SMITHVILLE, N. C., Nov. 5, 1891.
1.—Here put 1st choice.
2.—Here put 2d choice.
HENRY W. JOHNSON.

We wish every voter who reads THE BLADE to send us his postal card as soon as possible, as it will take some time to properly tabulate the returns. We propose doing this by states, as we will thus be enabled to see the drift of sentiment in the different sections of the country.

Send us your postal card at once!

IS THE DRINK PROBLEM SOLVED?

Since the success of the Keeley treatment for the cure of the drink habit has been proved, at least in the great majority of cases, there are thousands flocking to Dwight to avail themselves of the chance of releasing themselves from the fetters of the debasing vice of intemperance. Branches are being started in various parts of the country, which will use the same treatment, and thus offer a more extended opportunity for men desiring to be cured. There are not a few hopeful people who see in this treatment a mode of reaching the abolition of the evils of the Rum traffic—or at least the one great evil of drunkenness.

It is claimed that fully 90 per cent of those who are treated are permanently cured. That is, they are relieved from the desire for alcoholic stimulants. Such a record as this is remarkable, considering the hopeless condition of confirmed drinkers in the past, when no means were known of curing this horrible thirst. And it is doubtless true that if the system can be extended to cover all parts of the country, its effect—moral and practical—should be tremendous. Moral, because it calls attention to the horrors of dipsomania in a new and startling way; and practical because it converts the saloon's patrons into its greatest enemies. From the rush to Dwight and the demand for similar institutions, it is safe to conclude that the future influence of the cure will be limited only by the facilities for its application—and those are sure to be numerous.

But it is too much to expect that this will result in the entire abolition of the saloon, and the practical extinction of the Rum traffic. It is to be remembered, first, that a man must *desire* to be cured, else he will not take the time and bear the expense of the treatment. There are tens of thousands of drinking men in the country to-day who do not desire to abandon the habit. Again, the expense is too great for a very large number—and those the ones who need most to be cured. It costs $25 a week at Dwight or any of the branch establishments, and requires three or four weeks' treatment, at the least, to perfect a cure. There are thousands of men under the dominion of Rum to-day who would like to be cured who have not the means to do so.

Hence it is clear that the cure, even if carries out its promise, cannot be expected to overthrow the Rum Power and remove the Rum curse from the land. Rum has for centuries been the greatest curse that has afflicted humanity. No one can estimate the effort that has been made for its suppression, but yet, while some good has been done, the measures so far used scarcely make an impression upon the great evil. Even more—it has been, if anything, growing upon the nation, owing largely to the great accessions of foreign population, and what is getting to be the common policy of brewers, to maintain great numbers of saloons to handle their product, and thus to lead men into temptation.

The true line of effort is educational—the dissemination of a full and correct knowledge of the evils of the habit among all the people, and the conversion of a large majority everywhere, especially of those citizens of foreign birth or descent, to the principle that the only cure therefor is by the absolute prohibition of the manufacture and sale of Rum in any form. A law can do nothing so long as the majority is opposed to it. The first duty is to educate the people until the majority demands the law, and will be active in its strict enforcement everywhere. It will then be no trouble to make Prohibition prohibit, and thus

Pulverize the Rum Power.

"COLLARS AND CUFFS," otherwise the Duke of CLARENCE, eldest son of the Prince of WALES, and possibly one day to be King of England, is going to marry Princess VICTORIA MARY, only daughter of the Duke of TECK. The young gentleman having sowed a plenteous crop of wild oats, is now ready to assume permanent marital relations.

SENATOR HAWLEY'S bill to revive the grade of Lieutenant General in the army, is one that should be defeated unanimously. We have no living officer whose achievements entitle him to wear it. Let it remain in abeyance until such time in the future as some military leader so distinguishes himself as to entitle him to the honor.

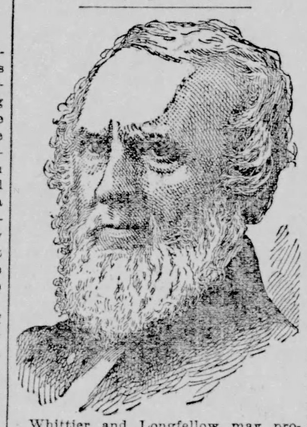
DEMOCRATIC papers are not saying a word about Secretary BLAINE'S "illness" these days. The liar is out of a job.

TEN FREE TRADE CONFESSIONS.

The New York *Press* has been collecting notable utterances of free traders and free trade organs, and prints in collected form the following ten remarkable statements, which it significantly labels "Free Trade Confessions:"

We will put our own intelligent and skillful and productive labor upon a plane of equality with the laborers of all other countries.—*Roger Q. Mills, at East St. Louis, September 25, 1888.*	Equalizing American and foreign labor.
He (Cleveland) has challenged the protected industries of the country to a fight of extermination.—*Senator Vest's letter to West Democratic Club, St. Louis, 1888.*	War for extermination on industries.
The producers, of course, support not merely themselves, but all those who are withdrawn from production.—*New York Times, February 14, 1890.*	Producers support consumers.
The increased wages attract labor from all over the world.—*Henry George's Standard, February 22, 1890.*	Home production increases wages.
The truth is that the best rails are selling in England at £7 5s. ($34.50) per ton, and in this country at $32.—*New York Evening Post, March 1, 1890.*	Protection cheapens goods.
Immigrants bring less baggage than formerly, because they have found out that clothing and household supplies are as cheap here as in the old countries.—*Superintendent Jackson, of Castle Garden, before the Congressional Committee, April 3, 1890.*	Clothing and household supplies cheap
Mr. Blaine's talk about reciprocity chiefly benefiting the farmers is a fine specimen of his peculiar nonsense. The farmers will be benefited, but not by new markets for their grain and other products. They will benefit by the greater prosperity of the manufacturing operatives which will result from a wider market for American manufactures.—*New York Herald, August 16, 1890.*	Home industrial market benefits farmers.
Prices have tended downward for several years past, while wages have very generally advanced.—*New York World, October 17, 1890.*	How the old protective tariff worked.
Everybody in this country eats meat. It is a necessity. Relatively few persons in England eat meat. There it is an imported article of luxury, like French preserves. — *Interview with a writer in the New York Evening Post.*	American laborers have meat to eat.
Just what McKinley set out to do has been accomplished to a great extent. — *N. Y. Evening Post, November 18, 1891.*	The McKinley law a success.

Note the significant character of these admissions. First comes MILLS'S declaration that the Democrats desire to put American working men down on the underpaid and poverty-stricken level of foreign labor. Next is Senator VEST'S acknowledgement that CLEVELAND attempted "a war of extermination" on our industries—for all of them are protected; and then follow eight admissions by free traders of the truth of positions taken by protectionists, but which, as a rule, are generally bitterly disputed by free trade orators and newspapers. The article should be carefully filed away for use in the campaign next year.



Whittier and Longfellow may properly be reckoned as the most distinctively American writers of this generation. Yet their names are not even mentioned in the *Encyclopædia Britannica*. They were big men, but the *Britannica* could not find room for living men in its columns, and it was left for an American work to supply this deficiency. The Revised Encyclopædia Britannica contains nearly 4,000 biographies of distinguished men and women of the time, knowing no limit of nationality or creed, and according to each the necessary space to tell their life story. See the offer of this splendid work on 7th page.

MORE TIN PLATE.

The new tin plate industry in this country goes steadily onward. The free trade tin plate liars have, as a rule, dropped their falsification since the November elections. It was high time. The people begin to understand that there are American tin-plate factories, and that they are aiding in supplying our market, as is shown by the extreme dullness in the Welsh tin plate trade, and the diminished exports from there to the United States.

A new establishment has just gone into operation, as will be seen by the following letter, dated November 21, and addressed to H. R. DE MILT & Co., No 238 Water street, New York:

GENTLEMEN:—We are now manufacturing a superior grade of "American Tin Plates" (Bright) in the following sizes: I C 14x20 and 20x28. These plates we guarantee to have 6 per cent coating, and to be equal to any in the market.

We would be pleased to quote you prices on a sample order from one to one hundred boxes for immediate delivery. Very truly yours,

THE CLEVELAND TIN PLATE CO.

Now let some free trader who wants tin plate send his order to Cleveland; he can be assured it will be promptly filled in any quantity, for immediate delivery, quality guaranteed. In a year from now it will be difficult to find a man who will willingly acknowledge that he ever said tin-plate manufacture in this country was an impossibility.

RENEW PROMPTLY!

Every subscriber to THE BLADE should renew his subscription promptly. No intelligent American citizen can afford to be without THE BLADE next year, during the great Presidential campaign. It is the only great national political weekly; its editorial pages are a mine of information and education on political issues, and it is read by men of both parties.

It is money in every man's pocket to be a subscriber to THE BLADE. There is not a subscriber but can save more than a dollar, or make more than that much, through the information contained in its pages. No intelligent man, with his wits about him, will dispute this fact.

Renew *in time!* Don't wait till the very last week of your subscription, and thus run the risk of missing a number or two.

THE Monticello, Ind., *Herald* has the following editorial paragraph concerning the popularity of the Weekly BLADE:

The *Herald's* experience with its clubbing list in the last few weeks shows that the Toledo BLADE ranks first in popularity of all the papers named, not even excepting the *Inter-Ocean*, which is a close second. Next is the State *Journal*, followed in the order named by the St. Louis *Globe-Democrat*, New York *Tribune*, Cincinnati *Commercial Gazette* and New York *Press*.

The editor, in sending in a large order, writes, that "at the rate orders come in, I find THE BLADE is the most popular of all the papers offered."

EVERY editor in the land will recognize the sort of visitor the Atchison *Globe* man must just have had when he wrote: "Every man knows of some cat that he thinks it is his neighbor's duty to bell."

THE NEW BLADE SEWING MACHINE.

We have not offered a sewing machine in connection with the Weekly BLADE for three years past. There has, however, been a constant demand, and we long since saw the importance of getting one to use with the Weekly BLADE, but until now have been unable to find one good enough. But we have succeeded at last. We now have the best sewing machine ever offered with a paper, and one as good as the highest-priced machine ever put upon the market.

This machine is new, simple and perfect. It has a high arm, and every convenience for rapid and effective work found in any other machine now on the market. In point of fact, we believe it is not only equal to, but in advance of all others. We could not afford to offer it to our subscribers if it were not the best.

We might have made this announcement a little earlier, but we deemed it best to wait until everything was in perfect order, and we were ready to ship machines as soon as the order was received, thus avoiding all delay. We are now prepared to ship 50 machines per day, and by the holidays will undoubtedly have to do so.

The rate at which we offer it—$18 for the new Blade Sewing Machine and one copy of the Weekly BLADE for one year—is $4 cheaper than any machine offered with any other newspaper. Yet we are certain that our machine is worth double any other newspaper machine.

The most remarkable part of our offer is, that we give a machine free for 30 yearly subscribers to the Weekly BLADE, accompanied by $30. We do not require these these names all to be sent in at once. They may be sent us in installments, each part numbered consecutively. As soon as we have received 30 names and $30, we will immediately ship the machine.

It will be found extremely easy for any young lady, wife or mother to raise a club of 30 names at a dollar each, in a week or ten days' time. We also call the attention of charitable organizations to the fact that they can thus easily put a machine into the hands of any poor, worthy seamstress, too many of whom unfortunately, are to be found in any community.

Everything about the new Blade Sewing Machine will be found exactly as represented in the advertisement given elsewhere. If it does not prove so after you get the machine, all you need do is notify us that the machine is not satisfactory. We shall then order it returned and refund the money, unless you desire us to send another in its place. Hence a subscriber is at positively no risk whatever.

We are selling this machine without any profit whatever, simply in the interest of increasing the subscription list to the Weekly BLADE. While the offer of the machine for 30 names and $30 will only net us a small amount for each subscription to the paper—much less than the cost—yet we hope for hundreds of such orders. We would much sooner sell the machine in that way than to single subscribers. Send in your orders at once!

OUR NATION'S FINANCES.

The report of the Treasurer of the United States shows that our national finances are in good condition. Our revenues have been decreased by the new tariff law to the point at which they just about meet the necessary governmental expenditures. Hence a revenue tariff can not be enacted without putting a duty on non-competing imports that now come in free—notably sugar, coffee and tea. The comparison of receipts and expenditures for the past two years is instructive as showing the workings of the new law in revenue reduction:

	1891.	1890.
Revenue	$45,355,365	$463,993,080
Expenditures	421,135,599	358,618,584
	$ 37,239,763	$105,344,496

The bulk of surplus for this year was used in the redemption of the 4½ per cent bonds which were presented for that purpose, and the bugaboo of the "surplus," which was such a burden to GROVER CLEVELAND, has entirely disappeared. It is not growing, and will not grow under the present law. The condition of the Treasury is an eminently satisfactory one. The available cash, on December 1, was $8,089,250 above all demands or liabilities, and exclusive of deposits in national bank depositories and subsidiary coins.

The report shows also that the money of the country is increasing rapidly in volume. The net increase for the month of December alone was $12,769,909, of which half was in gold certificates. The national debt reduction for the year has reached the remarkable total of $116,590,273, which means an annual reduction of $4,323,692 in the interest burden. The estimated per capita circulation on December 1 was $24.38 for each man, woman and child in the land, and it is increasing. This increase is a splendid thing for the country, for it is an increase in the actual wealth of the country, and not a fictitious increase by the creation of a debt, or by adding to the circulation money which is not intrinsically worth its face.

A NEW PENSION BILL.

Representative DOAN, of Ohio, is preparing a bill which he will soon introduce in Congress, that will revolutionize the whole matter of adjudicating pension claims. He takes the common-sense ground that when a soldier enlisted, he was examined by a board of army surgeons, and his being accepted is *prima facie* evidence of his soundness of body. This, he thinks, should do away with the present requirement of proof of a pension applicant's good health at the time of enlistment, which is absolutely impossible to furnish in many cases, because those who could give the required testimony are all dead. The affidavit of the claimant that he is suffering from disease contracted in the line of duty, supported by the evidence of a physician that he is in such condition, is to be considered sufficient to make out a case. If the Government disputes the claim the burden of proof will rest upon it and not the soldier.

THOUGH the trade balance of our commerce with Europe is largely in our favor, but little gold is coming to us across the Atlantic. This is a very common condition of things. We are simply creditors, holding bills of exchange on European financial houses. When we want the gold, we can have it. It is usual for us each fall to become the creditors to Europe for many millions, which are either paid for in goods imported into this country, by our securities which have been held abroad, or in gold. This time it will be one of the two latter, or both.

ALL the American carpet manufacturers have reduced their wholesale prices of carpets, as a consequence of the workings of the new tariff law. The cut is a deep one, being from 10 to 20 cent per yard on the better grades, and 5 to 15 cents on the cheaper ones. This fact is a poser to the free trade liars who insist that the new tariff increased prices.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

The third annual message of President HARRISON is a long document, but it could hardly have been much shorter, considering the number of subjects of national and international importance which he found it necessary to cover. On those topics in which the great public takes the most interest, the document, like all President HARRISON'S utterances, is strong and statesmanlike. On matters affecting our relations with other nations, he never "lowers the flag," but maintains a just and honorable position, befitting the greatness and power of the United States—as in the intimation of the possible enforcement of the Monroe doctrine in the matter of the dispute between Venezuela and Great Britain concerning the disputed boundary between the former and British Guiana.

On the tariff question, the President clearly sets forth the entire disproof of free trade assertions regarding the operations of the new law. He points to the official figures showing that it has not injured our trade abroad, nor increased the price of the necessities and comforts of life to the masses of our people. And he does not hesitate to declare that attacks on the system should cease, in order to allow our trade and industries full play, in place of rendering them cautious, and thus limiting their operations through fear of a radical change.

On the currency, he is no less frank and outspoken. The paragraphs of the message which deal with the silver question furnish an unanswerable argument to the friends of honest money against the efforts unwisely making to establish free coinage, and thus inevitably force the country to a silver basis—that of a 75-cent dollar. The injury which this would do to our farmers and workingmen is clearly set forth, and the opinion expressed that silver, like the tariff, needs simply to be let alone, for reasons which are fully stated in the message.

There are two great enterprises which receive emphatic endorsement at the hands of the President—the Pacific cable to Honolulu and the Nicaragua canal. The latter he deems so vitally important to this nation that he would favor its construction at the country's expense if there were no other way. The company, however, is making good progress and he deems the proper method of aid to be for the United States to guarantee its bonds. No intelligent citizen will be likely to disagree with him in this matter.

The one topic to which Mr. HARRISON devotes the most space is partisan interference in the free expression of the will of the people at the ballot-box, which is suggested by the Michigan gerrymander and adoption of the plan of the election of Presidential electors by Congressional districts. There is a grave possible danger to the peace and prosperity of the republic in the tolerance of such a practice as partisan legislative interference in the result of elections through gerrymanders, and the President speaks very frankly upon it. The prominence he has given it will bring it more strongly before the public, and the general discussion of the evil, which necessarily will follow, will possibly result in its counteraction—if not in the way the President suggests, then by the force of an aroused public opinion.

The message is a notable one; and, while it is not the keynote of a coming campaign, as was the notorious free trade message of Mr. CLEVELAND, it covers every question now of interest in the politics of the United States—treating them, however, from the standpoint of a statesman rather than that of a mere party leader. It will bear close reading and analytic discussion. It is a state paper worthy the President of the United States, and worthy of BENJAMIN HARRISON.

THE WEEKLY BLADE ADMITTED TO HAVE LARGEST CIRCULATION.

The New York Weekly *World* a short time ago raised the question whether it had not the largest weekly circulation in the United States, and frankly published its circulation figures per week for the past year. To this we replied in an article in these columns one week ago. The *World* admits our claim of superiority in circulation in the following article, which we reproduce entire:

The Toledo BLADE, weekly, is not one of the "claimants" for the crown of largest circulation, but like the *World* it is always ready to give the exact figures, week by week, of its circulation, and leave the "claims" of the crown hunters to those who "do not want the exact figures of their circulation known." The following statement of the Weekly BLADE'S circulation for 52 weeks past (Dec. 4, 1890, to Dec. 3, 1891,) has been compiled by the publisher for the *World*:

105,000	111,000	111,000	120,000	
106,000	112,000	112,000	120,000	
108,000	111,000	112,000	120,000	
109,000	112,000	112,000	119,000	
106,000	112,000	112,000	118,000	
107,000	113,000	112 000	118,000	
108,000	112,000	113,000	118,000	
111,000	112,000	114,000	117,000	
111,000	112,000	115,000	118,000	
111,000	113,000	115,000	118,000	
112,000	112,000	117,000		
112,000	112,000	119,000		5,888,000
112,000	112,000	120,000		113,211

In transmitting these figures the publisher of THE BLADE says:

Our claim for these figures is exactly like yours. Each of these weeks we have published the number claimed for paid-in-advance subscribers only. The Weekly BLADE never issues any special editions, never sends out any specimen copies except to the usual applications that come regularly to every large newspaper for free samples. You will observe that our average circulation exceeds yours by a little over 3,000. We claim also that the Weekly BLADE has had a circulation above 100,000 more consecutive years than any other weekly newspaper printed in this country. The BLADE congratulates the *World* on its favorable showing, and will say there is not enough weekly newspapers in this country to-day with over 100,000 circulation to paid-in-advance subscribers. Advertisers want more of them.

That THE BLADE shows an average of 3,000 more than the *World* is a matter for newspaper congratulation, for the publisher is right when he says there are not enough weeklies with large circulations, and the prosperity of one helps the prosperity of all; but it is not a matter for Democratic congratulation. THE BLADE has for many years been the wisest managed and most carefully nursed Republican party organ in the country, and if the Democratic subscribers to the *World* do not within the next 80 days wipe out this difference of 3,000, and put the two papers on an exact equality, so far as readers go, then we have mistaken their temper and overrated their good will.

We commend the last paragraph above to the earnest consideration of the patrons of the Weekly BLADE. This paper is the only Republican weekly paper of really national circulation, going into *every state and territory* of the Union. Shall a Democratic paper be allowed to exceed THE BLADE in circulation? We do not believe the active, loyal Republicans of the nation, who are anxious for the success of the party in the great Presidential contest of next year, will allow THE BLADE'S circulation to be overtopped by any Democratic paper. Turn in and lend us your aid in extending its circulation, friends!

THERE is a general expectation that Mr. BLAINE will announce his position regarding the Presidential nomination next year within a very short time. It is conjectured by some that his speech at Boston, on January 7, will contain the information for which the country waits. Meanwhile—patience!

WAS THE TREATY OF 1817 ABROGATED?

There has been a good deal of newspaper discussion concerning the propriety of abrogating the treaty of 1817 between Great Britain and the United States, which restricted the naval force each power might have upon the Great Lakes to small war vessels of antique pattern and obsolete armament. Now comes Mr. H. F. PENNINGTON, of Chicago, with a letter to the *Tribune* of that city, in which he declares that the treaty was abrogated by us twenty-seven years ago. The history of this act is so interesting that we quote that portion of his letter in full:

The treaty of 1817 provided that the naval force to be maintained upon the American lakes by this country and Great Britain should be confined to the following vessels: Upon Lake Champlain, one vessel; Lake Ontario, one vessel; and the upper lakes two vessels; each not to exceed 100 tons burden, and armed with one eighteen-pound cannon.

All other armed vessels on the lakes were to be "forthwith dismantled," and no other vessels of war should be there built or armed.

Then followed this important provision:

"If either party should be hereafter desirous of annulling this stipulation and should give notice to that effect to the other party, it shall cease to be binding after the expiration of six months from the date of such notice."

In May, 1864, when armed rebellion within found ardent sympathy without, Abraham Lincoln very wisely gave Great Britain the requisite notice and thereby terminated this treaty November 23 of that year.

In February following Congress fully approved the action of the president, and after a somewhat lengthy preamble, which recited among other things that the peace of our frontier was endangered by hostile expeditions against the commerce of the lakes which the naval force allowed by the two countries might be insufficient to prevent, and fully quoting the power to abrogate the same upon six months' notice, and that the same had been given, passed the following resolution, viz.:

"Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives in the United States of America in Congress assembled: That the notice given by the President of the United States to the government of Great Britain and Ireland to terminate the treaty of 1817, regulating the naval force upon the lakes, is hereby adopted and ratified as if the same had been authorized by Congress."

If the conditions of the treaty of 1817 have been reinstated by a subsequent treaty, the same has escaped my notice, and has no place among the reported treaties since 1864, complete copies of which I have in my office.

If Mr. PENNINGTON be correct—and we have reason to believe that he is—we can go to work at once and build a navy on the lakes. It is altogether probable that this subject will come up at the Detroit waterways convention; and it might be well for some delegate to post himself on the matter of the abrogation of this treaty, and bring up the subject in connection with the project of a deep water canal between the great lakes and tidewater.

The fact has been frequently stated that Great Britain could send over a sufficient fleet of gunboats and light-draught vessels, in case a complication threatening war should arise with the United States, which could pass the canals (they being on the Canadian side), and would have the entire chain of lake cities at their mercy. It has been proposed that Congress shall be urged to erect heavy fortifications at various points on the St. Lawrence, and on the Detroit and St. Clair rivers, with guns heavy enough to prevent such a fleet from passing them.

This plan, if carried out, would cost a very large sum of money, and the fortifications would not be of the slightest use in time of peace. THE BLADE wishes to suggest that it would be better in every way to use the money in the construction of the proposed canal, which is one of the subjects to be considered at the Detroit meeting. It would be available for commerce, and thus pay its cost in tolls. It would put us on an equality with Great Britain, for we could reach the lakes with all our naval vessels whose draught is not too great to pass. And if we built a fleet of vessels especially for lake service, they would be available for use anywhere else, as they could pass through the canal. Any fleet we might build on the lakes, without the canal, would be bottled up, so to speak—unable to leave them.

The matter is one well worth discussion, and we hope the Detroit convention will consider it carefully.

HOW THEY LIKE THE ENCYCLOPEDIA.

We have received several acknowledgements from subscribers who have received copies of our Revised Encyclopedia as premiums for getting up clubs for THE BLADE, some of which are herewith printed:

PLANKINTON, S. D., Nov. 28.—The Revised Encyclopedia Britannica (20 volumes) was duly received a few days since, and the only wonder is that you can furnish a fine library covering a range of human knowledge for the small sum of $7.50. I am more than satisfied with my investment.—W. D. ROWLAND.

MORRISTOWN, N. J., Dec. 9.—Your Revised Encyclopedia came to hand all right. It takes up a whole row of 10 volumes of "Library of Universal Knowledge." I read the preface carefully, and thought that if true I had got a bargain. I read the two articles on "Grant" and "United States," and am satisfied it was true.—SAMUEL COLT.

ANTHONY, R. I., Dec. 2.—The "Encyclopedia Britannica" arrived in due time, and in good condition. Please accept my thanks for this very valuable work, which really comprises a complete library in itself. In my opinion, no one should omit this opportunity of obtaining it, together with a newspaper which is of so high a standard in every department as is the Toledo BLADE. We have taken the paper for several years, and always praise it greatly to our friends.—BELLA J. MATTESON.

DES MOINES, Iowa, Dec. 1.—I received in good order the Revised Encyclopedia Britannica. I am well pleased with it, for the following reasons: It is cheap; it is durable; it is fair as I have compared it with the old edition, better for the general reader than that edition, for everything in the Revised is of interest to all readers, while there are many things in the old that are of no interest except to a specialist; it is better for the student than the old. Do not withdraw your offer. Every student, every farmer who reads, every one of any occupation who cannot afford, or does not wish to pay a great price for an encyclopedia, bound in leather or cloth, should have the Revised Encyclopedia.—W. S. PARKER.

THE MINNEAPOLIS CONVENTION.

As a matter of interest to Republicans everywhere, we give the number of delegates to which each state and territory is entitled in the national Republican convention which meets at Minneapolis on June 7 next:

State.	Delegates.	State.	Delegates.
Alabama	22	New Jersey	20
Arkansas	1	New York	72
California	13	North Carolina	22
Colorado	8	North Dakota	6
Connecticut	12	Ohio	46
Delaware	6	Oregon	8
Florida	8	Pennsylvania	64
Georgia	28	Rhode Island	8
Idaho	6	South Carolina	18
Illinois	48	South Dakota	8
Indiana	30	Tennessee	24
Iowa	26	Texas	30
Kansas	20	Vermont	8
Kentucky	26	Virginia	24
Louisiana	16	Washington	8
Maine	12	West Virginia	12
Maryland	16	Wisconsin	24
Massachusetts	30	Wyoming	6
Michigan	28	Utah	2
Minnesota	18	Arizona	2
Mississippi	18	Dist. of Columbia	2
Missouri	34	New Mexico	2
Montana	6	Oklahoma	2
Nebraska	16		
Nevada	6	Total	808
New Hampshire	8		

This number will require 450 votes to nominate. If Alaska should send two delegates and they should be admitted, there will be just 900 in the convention, and 451 will be required to nominate.

MR. BRICE is in the Senate, but the question is, How long will he be allowed to represent the Empire state in that body?—[New York Recorder.

That depends on how many Senators there are who are not in sympathy with plutocracy.

THE big Democratic majority in the House of Representatives would be a peril to the country were it not for the Republican Senate and Republican President.

MILLS couldn't be head, so he turned sorehead.

On December 24

We Shall Begin the Publication of Our New Serial—Some Points For Our Readers.

In the issue of the Weekly BLADE for December 24 we shall begin the publication of the new serial, already announced in these columns—

MARK AINSLIE'S QUEST;
Or,
An American Daughter of the Gods.

It is a bright, crisp story of modern life. The characters are typical, and more than one of them will certainly become favorites with THE BLADE'S readers. The action is very brisk, and the singular change of events which constitute the central action of the tale is singularly novel and fresh. The story is bound to make a sensation in the reading world. Its publication will be one of the literary events of the year.

It is not only strong and vivid, but intensely interesting; it is clean and pure, and carries with it a lesson to be heeded by young or old; at the same time it is not mawkish nor didactic in a single line. It is, in short, just such a story as every member of the great BLADE constituency will be glad to read, and to admit that *it alone* is worth more than the cost of THE BLADE for the entire year.

Special Request.

We wish to send out sample copies of the issue of THE BLADE containing it to as many persons who are not subscribers as possible. We ask every friend of THE BLADE to send us, *at once*, a list of persons, with their postoffice addresses, he knows who would like to see a copy of THE BLADE, and who are not subscribers. We will send copies of the first instalment of the new story to all such. You can get ten names, and addresses on a postal card, or can send lists in letters you may be writing to us.

The new story, if published in book form, would make a $1.50 book. We shall publish three or four serials during the year; hence, you get more than the subscription price in this way alone. Do not forget to renew in time!

GOV. HILL'S PROGRAMME.

That incomparable political trickster, DAVID BOTHOFFICES HILL, of New York, made a speech recently at Elmira which is exciting a vast deal of comment, especially from the Democratic press. The speech is simply Mr. HILL'S first move on the political chessboard for the Democratic Presidential nomination next year. He lays down a programme for the party which is opposed to that of GROVER CLEVELAND, of course, and one that may win for HILL the prize he covets.

As every one knows, CLEVELAND'S one trump card is "tariff reform"—and by that phrase he and his friends mean free trade in competing products and duties large enough to furnish the necessary $225,000,000 of revenue which must come from our imports each year, on non-competing products, such as coffee, tea, sugar, etc. And Mr. CLEVELAND desires that the Democratic House this winter shall pass a radical tariff bill, that the Democratic party may go to the country upon it in the national battle of 1892.

Mr. HILL has quite a different scheme. His theory is to capture the Presidency at all hazards—and he believes in the old Democratic way of "kicking" at every thing the Republican party does or has done, without troubling yourself as to anything else. It is easier to growl and find fault with what is done, than to elaborate a legislative policy that will find more favor than the one it is intended to displace. So Mr. HILL caters to the chronic sorehead ism of the Democracy, and demands that the Democratic house this winter shall simply pass a bill to repeal the "McKinley law," and "appeal to the country" on that alone.

On the silver question, he opposes Mr. CLEVELAND far more radically. Mr. CLEVELAND is opposed not only to free coinage, but also to the Bland-Allison law. Mr. HILL plays the political Artful Dodger on this question by declaring in favor of free coinage of a silver dollar which shall be equal in value to a gold dollar—which statement is intended to capture the honest money Democrats of the East; then he jumps over into the free silver camp of the Western Democrats by declaring, in effect, that if Congress should pass a free coinage law, silver would at once rise to a point that would put the present silver dollar on a parity with the gold dollar.

Such a Democratic platform as he outlines for the coming year begins to look probable. CRISP represented HILL and this scheme, while MILLS represented CLEVELAND and his platform, in the recent speakership fight. CRISP won, but it was not a victory by so great a majority as to settle the question thus raised between the opposing policies. The struggle will have to continue until the Democratic National convention meets next summer, when the battle royal will be fought which will settle the quarrel, at least so far as the platform is concerned.

OUR CONFIDENTIAL TERMS.

With November 1, all our three months' offers for subscriptions to the Weekly BLADE expired. It is now time to get up clubs of yearly subscribers for this, the leading national weekly Republican journal of the United States We have just prepared our confidential club terms to agents, which we will

Publishers' Desk.

CLUBS POURING IN.

We are highly gratified at the rapidity with which large clubs of subscribers for the Weekly BLADE are pouring in. This furnish is due to two causes—first, because THE BLADE is the most popular weekly paper in the United States; and, second, because we offer the most advantageous terms and the highest cash commissions to agents—the highest ever offered by any paper in the world.

We do not care to receive applications for our confidential terms to agents from any one who is not determined to raise a club, and to put forth his efforts to earn a few honest dollars. Don't send unless you really mean business!

CLOSING OUT SALE.

We have decided to publish no more of the following books and pictures, and for the purpose of closing out the stock on hand, we offer them at about the cost of production. It will be necessary to order very quickly as we have but a few of each left. This will be the last opportunity of purchasing Nasby's books, and hundreds will want Miss Bouton's "Health and Beauty" after they are gone.

We will send until the stock is exhausted, a picture of John Calvin for 10 cents each, postpaid by mail. The former price was 25 cents.

The following paper-covered "Nasby" books (former price 50 cents) we will send by mail postpaid at 25 cents each: "A Paper City," "Afton Bon Adhem," and "Echoes From Kentucky."

About fifty copies of Miss Bouton's "Health and Beauty," cloth, (former price $1) we will send postpaid by mail at 75 cents each. Don't delay if you want any of these books or pictures.

OUR SOUVENIR SPOON.

Your attention is called to the picture of the solid silver souvenir tea spoon on the 8th page of this issue. A splendid Christmas present. The spoon and the Weekly BLADE one year postpaid, for $3.00; the spoon alone $2.50. Any one sending five yearly subscribers to the Weekly BLADE, will receive a spoon free of cost. Remember this spoon is made of solid sterling silver, THE BLADE has never offered its readers anything that was not exactly as represented, and this spoon is no exception to the rule.

THE PRICE REDUCED.

Now that the price has been reduced to 75 cents per copy, we wish to remark that Miss Bouton's "Health and Beauty" is a very timely Christmas present. We have, however, only a few left—probably enough to fill what orders will come in by December 20. Hence, if you want a copy, order *now*. As soon as the copies now on hand are disposed of, the book will be out of print.

FOUR ENTIRELY NEW PICTURES,

And Four Not Very Old Ones, For Blade Readers.

THE BLADE'S pictures have heretofore been very successful, and we have furnished thousands of our readers with beautiful copies of renowned paintings at prices less than half the art stores charge. We are glad to announce *four* NEW pictures now ready for mailing, as follows:

"The Roman Chariot Race," in the Circus Maximus of Rome, by Alexander Wagner. This is *in full colors*, 17x24 inches in size. It represents the mode of racing in the reign of Emperor Titus, 81 years after Christ. The tiers of seats, crowded with a mass of excited people, run in a circular or oblong form around a sandy arena, at the end of which are erected gilt ornaments of conical shape, forming the goal of the races. The three chariots in the foreground, each drawn by four horses caparisoned with gorgeous trappings and driven by charioteers in bright colors, make one of the most remarkable examples of vigor and action, combined with beauty of color, detail and rare execution.

"The Retreat from Moscow—1814," by Meissonier, the renowned French artist, and is in his best style. In *full colors*, 17x24 inches in size. As the curtain covering the soldiers in the midst of winter Napoleon has driven before him the Russians and penetrated into the heart of their country only to find, when he entered the imperial city of Moscow that the inhabitants have fled, leaving every house in the city in flames. Then began that fatal retreat depicted in this great painting. The great original painting was sold in Paris within the last eighteen months for $170,000, one of the highest prices on record for a modern picture.

"Christ Leaving the Pretorium," by Gustave Dore. A fine photo-etching, 21x28 inches. The scene represents Christ descending the steps leading from the official tribunal of the Roman government of Jerusalem after his condemnation. The figure of the Savior, erect and commanding, is the center of attraction. The gaping crowd, some of them friends, others attracted by excitement, the leering Jews pressing forward with uplifted hands; the poor and wretched, who adored him, expressing the most profound sorrow; the sick whom he had healed and those who still craved his divine help all pressing forward to get one last glance at him, while the Roman soldiers, with spears and shields driving them back are graphically displayed in this wonderful picture.

"Women and Children First," by C. Napier Hemy, one of the first of marine artists of England, a fine photo etching, 21x28 inches. The story is here told with all the poetry of art, filling the picture with the heroic in human life, and the sublime and terrible in nature. On the left looms up the dark side of a huge ship, at the mercy of the wind and waves. Directly in the front of the picture, a life boat, "The Good Samaritan," is seen. Sturdy hands pull at the heavy oars while other strong men are rescuing the women and children first from the fated vessel. The climax of heroism in this admirable picture is on the deck of the wrecked vessel, where the men, looking death in the face, are shouting as she goes down, "Women and Children First."

"Napoleon at Friedland, 1807," the masterpiece of the renowned French painter Meissonier. It represents Napoleon saluting, with imperial gesture, his favorite regiment, the 12th Cuirassiers, as it swept by him to charge the Russians at Friedland. The copy we offer is 21x28 inches, in colors, faithfully reproducing the detail, brilliancy and sentiment of the original.

"Christ Before Pilate," by Munkacsy, the famous Hungarian artist. This is not the picture we sold formerly; that was plain, but this is *in colors*, 17x24, reproducing with fidelity those of the original, which was sold to Postmaster General Wanamaker for $120,000. It represents the Savior brought to the Pretorium, or residence of the Roman governor, Pilate, at Jerusalem. He stands erect, composed, gazing steadfastly on Pilate's face.

"The Grand Canal of Venice," by Turner, the famous English artist. The scene portrayed is the Grand Canal as seen from the quay. On the right are the steps and a portion of the church of Santa Maria delle Salute; beyond this, the custom-house. Opposite, in the middle distance, is the Ducal Palace, and beyond it, towering above the city roofs, the campanile (bell-tower) of St. Mark's church. The canal is filled with bargos and gondolas, and is the busiest and gayest part of Venice. The picture is 17x29 inches.

"The Horse Fair," by Rosa Bonheur. There is no need of describing this world-famous picture. We have sold thousands of them, and still the demand comes so that we have obtained a fresh supply, though not a large number. Order promptly if you desire a copy of this superb work of art.

Any *one* of the above pictures will be sent by mail, postpaid, inclosed in a stout pasteboard tube, for 25 cents.

Or, we will send any *five* of them you may choose for One Dollar.

Or, we will send you the entire *eight* pictures for $1.50.

Address all orders: THE BLADE, TOLEDO, OHIO.

BLADE CHINA TEA SETS and BLADE WASHING MACHINES.

We had decided that we would not this season advertise the Blade china tea sets and the Blade washing machine, as we have new premiums to offer—The Blade sewing machine and the encyclopedia. However, our subscribers will not have it so. Our mail daily brings us inquiries as to the tea sets and washing machines. While we have not room to advertise them as we did last year, we will simply say that the offers for both the tea sets and the washing machines which we made last year will hold good for this season also. Our old readers are familiar with the offers, or have copies of THE BLADE containing them. New ones who wish to know what the offers are will please drop us a postal card, and we will send a copy of both advertisements, exactly as they were published last year. Briefly they are as follows:

An 80-piece china tea set and the Weekly BLADE one year for $7; or the tea set as a premium for every club of 11 subscribers, accompanied by $11.

The washing machine and the Weekly BLADE one year for $5; or the washing machine as a premium for a club of 10 subscribers, accompanied by $10. Send for a copy of the offers.

Our New Parson.

We have a new preacher whose voice is so great
That it has a wonderful reach.
I have only to stand at the churchyard gate
To hear what he chooses to preach.
—[N. Y. Herald.

Science Causerie.

A Physiological Discovery.

Those glands situated in the back part of the mouth, and familiarly known as the tonsils, have always appeared, in physiological eyes, as somewhat of a puzzle—that is to say, their functions or uses have not been accurately determined. They are ductless glands, and unlike the livers salivary glands, sweetbread, or tear glands, do not possess any tubes or ducts leading from them, and conveying away any secretion they may manufacture. We can understand, on this footing, how the spleen itself was an anamoly in the eyes of the ancients, seeing that, like the tonsils, it had no outlet, and that, unlike the liver or the other glands above named, it did not seem to elaborate any fluid or product of use in the body. We have arrived at a fair solution of the mystery of the spleen, which is a blood gland, and which seems to be occupied in the work (among other duties, possibly) of making blood corpuscles; but until very recently the tonsils puzzled us completely.

The opinion was hazarded that they might be glands of service in early life, like the thyroid gland in the neck, or the thymus gland, which is big in infancy, but decreases in size and importance as we pass away from the first epoch of our existence. This is by no means an unphilosophical view to take of organs which do not appear to subserve any duty in adult existence. Early life has its own special demands and duties, and organs which discharge these duties would naturally decline and appear before us as useless parts, when the adult stage was attained.

Again, we must bear in mind that man retains in his anatomy not a few remnants and vestiges of organs which, no longer serviceable or required by humanity, yet played, and still play, in lower life many important parts. The pineal gland of our brain is such a structure. Descartes allocated the soul to this gland. Now we know it is simply a vestige of a median eye, which once upon a time, in our far back ancestry, existed on the top of the head, and which, for that matter of it, still exists as an eye in some fishes and in certain lizards. But the functions of the tonsils have of very late days received a new interpretation from the researches of Dr. Lovell Gulland, whose paper on this subject appears in the Edinburg *Medical Journal* for November. It seems that the tonsils are really glands which are devoted to the manufacture of the white blood-cells.

Nor is this all. Dr. Gulland tells us that while many of these important white cells pass off into the blood circulation, thence to wander on their beat, like sanitary policemen, through the tissues, many others take up their position on the outside of the tonsils themselves. This latter move on the part of these white cells is a very interesting one; for, as they live on the tonsil-surfaces, they act as a set of custom-house officers in preventing injurious or contraband matter (chiefly germs, of course) from passing onwards to the throat, stomach and lungs. This is both an extraordinary and an extremely interesting discovery, for it makes plain to us how and why many of the germs we inhale are prevented from doing injury to us. They may pass into the mouth, but the cordon of white blood cells on the tonsils acts as a fairly efficient barrier, which the bulk of the germs we inhale may not pass, and we are thus secured from the germ-invasion of both the digestive system and the breathing system.

The tonsils are subject to ailments, among which the familiar quinsy is the best known. When the tonsils from this or any other cause become inefficient in the discharge of their duties, and when their white cells are not produced in sufficient numbers or in proper degree of vitality, it seems that the glands in their turn become attacked by the germs they otherwise kill. Quinsy, in this view of things, is an ailment which arises through the battle between germs and tonsils being decided in favor of the microbes. I regret that these researches are of singular interest, for they not only reveal to us the hitherto unknown functions of the tonsils, but show us how in yet another fashion the human territory is protected from germ attack.

Method of Sterilizing Milk.

To kill all the bacteria usually found in milk—and there is always a wonderfully great and diversified army of them—it requires to be heated a few minutes at about 224 degs. F. A special steam sterilizer is necessary to attain such a high temperature. The same effects may be obtained usually by boiling the milk about 30 minutes. Heating a few minutes between 158 degs. and 176 degs. is sufficient to destroy temporarily the energy of a large number of milk microbes, including several disease germs, but does not kill many of them, and is not, therefore, sufficient as a preservative means. This is the temperature (about 167 degs.), the application of which is known as pasteurization.

The *Bacteriological World*, authority for the foregoing, says that it is not only to destroy disease germs that sterilization is indicated. Indeed, in infant feeding it is cheefly to prevent the irritative action of acid, produced by microbes or germs of all kinds, whether truly milk ferments, pathoge ic bacteria, or organism harmless under ordinary circumstances.

Milk coagulates, acidifies under the influence or vegetative phenomena of various ferment organisms. The acid produced has the most baneful action on the delicate stomach and intestinal canal of the child. Sterilization of fresh milk destroys the property of the germs before any acid is produced by their process of nutrition.

Liege Firearms Making.

The single industry of making firearms gives employment to some 40,000 workmen in the Liege district alone, in Belgium, and the proof house in that city is the oldest, and by far the largest establishment of the kind in Europe, and probably in the world. Every fire-arm manufactured in Belgium has to be droved at the Liege proof house before it is allowed to be sold, with the exception of certain arms that are allowed to be sent to a recognized proof house, at Birmingham, for instance, to be proved; and the proof master in addition to his ordinary duties, is specially delegated by the government to inspect and control all firearms made in the kingdom, with the exception of the military rifles made at the government factories, which do not pass the Liege proof house. Every double-barrelled rifle and shot gun has to be proved three times; first, each barrel separately; second, the two barrels when soldered together, and, finally, after the breech action has been attached; and the charge of powder is considerably more powerful than that used at other proof houses. No one is paid for his work on a gun, unless the arm passes the three proofs satisfactorily.

To See the Blood Vessels of the Eye.

Purkinje discovered a very simple and entertaining experiment by means of which the retina, with all its veins and blood vessels standing out in relief against it, can be thrown into the air before one's eyes. It is called the arborescent figure, from its likeness to a many-branched tree, and is produced in the following manner: In a dark room at night move a candle backward and forward before the eyes, these being firmly fixed on the wall beyond. After a few seconds the air will assume a reddish appearance, and running over it in all directions may be seen the veins and blood vessels in bold relief, while toward the center of the figure there rises up a dark trunk, from which the veins branch out on all sides.

The trunk is visible where the optic nerve enters the eye, and this experiment is chiefly interesting to the student as proving that the parts of the retina which actually receive and produce the sensation of light must lie behind the blood vessels, since these cast their shadow on to it, and we are enabled to see them, as we see any other object, externally.

Force of Light-Waves.

Professor Oliver J. Lodge calculates that the impact of light-waves from the sun produces a pressure on the moon's surface of about 1,000 tons. In a total eclipse of the moon this force is withdrawn, but since the total attraction of the sun on the moon is to be estimated in millions of tons, this slight apparent diminutive gives no appreciable effect. Upon a very small body, however, the pressure of solar light might be equal to, or even greater than the attraction of gravitation. Such a body need not be infinitely minute, but of a size comparable with that of a grain of dust. It is conceivable that the dropping off of comets' tails on their approach to the sun is due to this action.

Arcturus.

This well known star has recently been the subject of careful observations by Dr. Elkin, astronomer of Yale university, United States, and from its parallax he concludes that it is moving through space at the extraordinary speed of 881 miles a second. Arcturus is so far away from the earth that his light, traveling 190,000 miles a second, takes 181 years to reach us. We see the star, in fact, by means of light which left it in the days of Queen Anne.

Scientific Notes.

The frying sound in the telephone is caused by induction from other lines, earth currents and static discharges.

Watch crystals are made by blowing a sphere of glass about one yard in diameter; after which the disks are cut from it by means of a pair of compasses having a diamond at the extremity of one leg.

Mlle. Elise St. Omer has begun a journey around the world in the interest of the Geographical Society of Paris. The journey is to last three years, and the traveler is to devote special attention to the lives and customs of women in the various countries which she visits. She will publish a book upon the subject after her return.

The American bison is almost extinct, the estimate having been made that there are remaining but 1,096, distributed as follows: Two hundred and fifty-four in captivity, in different American Zoological parks; 200 wild ones in Yellowstone park, protected by the government; 85 wild ones in other parts of the United States, and 7 in foreign countries.

M. Oovaroff, a Moscow scientist, has discovered that when lightning strikes in a forest the white poplar (*populus alba*) is the first to attract it. He came to the conclusion that this tree can be used as a natural lightning rod, and he submitted a memorial to the minister of the Interior advocating that the planting of a white poplar before every house in a village be made obligatory upon the peasants to prevent fire by lightning.

News of the Week.

Continued from 8th Page.

HE IS IDENTIFIED.

Mr. Sage's Would-be Assassin is Believed to Have Been Henry L. Norcross, of Boston.

BOSTON, Dec. 12.—The *Globe* says that Henry L. Norcross, of Sargeant avenue, Somerville, a note broker doing business at 12 Pearl street, Boston, has not been seen at his office since the middle of last week, and the other occupants of his Somerville residence say that he was killed in a railroad accident about that time. New York detectives were in town to-day trying to identify the missing man as the mysterious bomb thrower in Russell Sage's office last week Friday.

The detectives brought with them a trousers' button, and portions of the trousers worn by the bomb thrower, as well as a piece of his coat and portions of his underclothing. According to the *Globe*, these were taken to the Norcross residence last evening, and the underclothing positively identified by Mrs. Norcross as belonging to her husband. On the trousers of the dead man were buttons bearing the print, "Brooks, tailor, Boston." The pieces of clothing were taken to Mr. Brooks's store in the afternoon. There it was positively stated that the firm had made for Henry L. Norcross a coat of the cloth presented, and also a pair of trousers of the same cloth as the other piece furnished by the detective. The button was also identified as a peculiar one used by this tailoring house.

Henry L. Norcross, who certainly has not been seen at his place of business, and has not been at home in Sommerville since before the day a week ago on which the life of Russell Sage was threatened, is about 28 years of age.

Further investigation leaves scarcely any room for doubt that the bomb thrower and Henry L. Norcross are identical. His father, who was also seen, believes that such is the fact. The identification of the clothing has been made complete by the discovery that the number upon the portion of the trousers worn by the bomb thrower and brought here from New York, corresponds exactly with the number against the name of Norcross on the books of Brooks, the tailor, who made a suit of clothes for Norcross last October. A photograph of the dead bomb thrower's head has been procured with a likeness of Norcross taken about six months ago, and the resemblance is most striking. Mr. Norcross, senior, says that his son left home the day preceding the New York affair, stating that he was going on a business trip, first to Providence, thence to Hartford, New Haven, Worcester and Fitchburg. Since then he has not been seen by the members of his family.

One picture is a portrait of Henry L. Norcross, of Boston, from a photo taken nine or ten years ago; the other, of the ghastly head on exhibition at the morgue, New York, and said to be the head of the man who threw the bomb in Russell Sage's office on December 4. It

appears pretty clear at the present time that both are likenesses of one and the same person. A former schoolmate of Norcross identified the head at the morgue as that of his old acquaintance. Norcross left his home at Somerville, a few miles from Boston, the day before the explosion. His mother identifies fragments of outer clothing and also pieces of underwear which had been worn by the bomb thrower, as those of her son, the missing Norcross.

A POSSE SURROUNDED BY STRIKERS.

Critical Situation at the Crested Butte Coal Mines in Colorado.

CHICAGO, Dec. 12.—A dispatch published here under the date of Gunnison, Col., says: The sheriff of Gunnison county and a posse of 25 men were fired on at midnight by 150 striking coal miners at the coal mines of the Colorado Coal & Iron company at Crested Butte. The sheriff and posse were imprisoned and are now besieged. The latest reports are that five men have been killed. At 3 a. m. a delegation of Crested Butte citizens arrived, having traveled 28 miles with greatest possible speed. They have called for citizen volunteers to rescue the sheriff and posse.

They are in a most critical position, being surrounded by strikers who are armed. Fans, pumps and works have been stopped. This has caused gas to accumulate and the danger of an explosion is great. Should it occur it would destroy not alone the works but nearly all of Crested Butte.

Mills is Sulking.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—(Special.)—Mr. Mills is taking his defeat very hard. He not only refused to take an active part in yesterday's proceedings in the House, but when his name was called he selected a seat just as far in the rear as possible, and withstood all efforts to get him to take a more eligible location. It is understood that he will urge an early call of the Texas legislature for the election of a Senator, as he expects that that body will take him out of his present unpleasant position and place him in the Senate with his friend Carlisle.

The negotiations for the Cherokee strip are dragging so slowly that the United States commissioners intimate that they are almost weary enough of the affair to abandon the matter.

"THE COLUMBUS OF TO-DAY"

is what John Bright called Cyrus W. Field in the House of Commons. This American had told the world that the Atlantic could be wired and he had just done it. Mr. Field will describe the enormous difficulties of laying the cable, in *The Youth's Companion*.

JOAQUIN MILLER'S SON

Is In a California Jail On a Charge of Holding Up and Robbing a Stage Coach.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 9.—Joseph McKay, who is in jail at Ukiah, Cal., charged with stage robbery, has been found to be the son of Joaquin Miller, "the poet of the Sierras."

The real name of the young man is Harry Miller. He is 22 years of age, and is the son of the poet and the latter's first wife, Minnie Myrtle. On November 14 the Ukiah and Eureka stage was held up nineteen miles from Ukiah by a masked man armed with a rifle. Chas. Lambert, the stage driver, hastily complied with the demand of the highwayman to throw out the express box, but demurred when ordered to hand over the mail bags, and finally succeeded in escaping with them.

Young Miller was afterwards arrested for the robbery by the sheriff, and finally confessed. The boy's mother was Minnie Myrtle, whose reputation for intellectual vigor was little short of her husband's. She died in New York some years ago. Miller says he was hard up, and as there was no money in cutting wood, he thought he would try stage robbing.

Joaquin Miller himself does not have anything to do with the boy, and the latter says his life might have been different, but that he never was encouraged to go to school or make anything of himself. He is credited with serving a sentence in the Portland, Ore., penitentiary for house-breaking, but his identity was not disclosed until now.

CLAIM JUMPERS MAKING TROUBLE.

An Outbreak Probable In the Northern Part of the Flathead Reservation.

HELENA, Mont., Dec. 14.—Trouble is brewing in the northern part of the Flathead reservation between some claim jumpers and several Indian families who were placed on allotment lands on Dayton creek a short time ago. Under orders from the authorities at Washington, Maj. Ronan, agent of the Flatheads, located nineteen Kootenai families on choice land bordering on Dayton creek, which had been set apart for them. Yesterday 25 armed men drove to the section and jumped the lands, driving the Indians off. The young bucks among the Kootenais wanted to fight, but the old men of the families prevailed upon them to make no resistance.

It has been difficult for the old men to hold the bucks in restraint as long as they have, and it is feared they will not be able to do so much longer. Maj. Ronan has been in communication with the commissioner of Indian affairs by wire, who telegraphed that the attorney general has instructed the United States marshal at Helena to render Maj. Ron an any assistance necessary.

HOPE FOR DEAF AND DUMB PEOPLE.

They Can Hear Through the Phonograph and May Learn to Talk.

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 14.—Superintendent Johnson, of the Deaf and Dumb Institute, has been making experiments with the phonograph and believes that in connection with it he can teach the majority of the deaf mutes under his charge to talk. He finds that the instrument concentrates the sound at the drum of the ear in such a way that many of the pupils, otherwise deaf, are enabled to hear.

He intends to carry the experiments further, and thinks the phonograph may become a means of teaching the mutes of their voices to some mutes whose inability to speak is due to the fact that they have never heard speech. He tried the phonograph with 27 boys and 29 girls. Of these only three girls were unable to hear instrumental music, while eleven boys and fifteen girls could distinguish spoken words. Of the 56 whose hearing was tested by placing the phonograph tubes in their ears, 28 could hear best with the left ear and 14 with the right, while 11 heard alike in both ears.

A HUGE MOUNTAIN CRACKED OPEN.

Extraordinary Effect of an Earthquake Shock in Washington.

WHATCOM, Wash., Dec. 14.—One of the Twin Sisters, north of Mount Baker, was observed at 11:30 a. m., Saturday, emitting a huge volume of smoke, which arose apparently to the height of 1,000 feet. Smoke was soon lifted to the north and disappeared. About 2:30 p. m. a column of smoke also arose from Mount Baker and other mountains showed the same phenomenon. A rent was observed in the main sister which has never appeared before and which was apparently a quarter of a mile long, running from the top of the mountain toward the base. The mountain has never been surmounted, the top being a precipitous mass of chrome iron and about 9,000 feet high. In the early morning a distinct earthquake shock was felt.

LOTTERY QUESTION IN LOUISIANA.

Friends of the Octopus will Control the Democratic State Convention.

CHICAGO, Dec. 12.—A special dispatch from New Orleans says: Every parish save west Baton Rouge has sent delegates to the Democratic state convention. Careful review of the situation shows that the facts are favorable to the lottery people being in control. On the governorship question the delegates stand: McEnery, lottery, 371; Adams, anti-lottery, 278. Sixty-five of the McEnery and 40 of the Adams delegates are contested, leaving the uncontested delegates: McEnery, 306; Adams, 238. On the lottery question the convention will stand: Anti-lottery, 309; pro-lottery, 373, without taking any of the doubtful parishes into consideration.

WHERE ARE THE TANKERSLEYS?

Why Don't They Naturalize and Get Their Little $6,000,000?

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 12.—Mayor Stephens, of East St. Louis, has received a letter from P. S. Hocker, a notary public, of Centralia, Mo., asking for the whereabouts of A. J. Tankersley, who formerly lived in East St. Louis, and saying that he was searching for all the Tankersleys in America that may be descendants of Sir George Tankersley, of Sheffield, Hull and Bunsley, England. The American Tankersleys are said to be heirs to an estate valued at $6,000,000. A. J. Tankersley moved to New Mexico some time since.

GEN. LOGAN'S SON MAY RECOVER.

Grip Has Laid Him Very Low, but There Is Still Hope.

YOUNGSTOWN, O., Dec. 14.—John A. Logan, jr., who was stricken with an abscess in the right ear, near the base of the brain, as a result of la grippe, is still quite low. Mrs. General Logan and Dr. Ritchie, of Washington, arrived Saturday, and after seeing the patient Dr. Ritchie stated that while he was quite ill the symptoms were favorable to recovery. Prominent physicians here are in constant attendance. Many messages have been received from personal friends of the Logan family inquiring as to the patient's condition.

USURPING DEMOCRATS MUST GO.

A Maryland Decision with a Moral for Gov. Hill.

BALTIMORE, Md., Dec. 12.—Associate Judges Brooke and Crane of the Seventh judicial circuit, have decided that the election held at St. Leonards, in Calvert county, was valid. Chief Judge Briscoe dissented. The decision places in office the following, all Republicans: State's attorney, Frederick Gantt; sheriff, Elijah Brown; county commissioners, Charles C. Spicknall, George P. Ross and Joseph J. Hall. The Democratic candidates for three offices, to whom commissions have been issued by Gov. Jackson and who are qualified, will have to give up their places.

McGlynn's Challenge.

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—The Rev. Dr. McGlynn has issued a challenge to Archbishop Corrigan in the following words, which are posted in large letters in the Cooper Institute:

"Is the pope's encyclical on labor an infallible pronouncement?

"Will Archbishop Corrigan make an explicit declaration that it is infallible?"

"Dr. McGlynn defies the archbishop to assert that it is, and promises in his address on Sunday night he will prove that it is not."

HILL AGAIN BALKED.

Judge Barnard, of New York, Sits Down Very Hard on the Democratic Pretenders.

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 14.—In the Fifteenth Senatorial district election case Judge Barnard has directed a recount of the votes canvassed in Duchess county when Mr. Crawford the Democratic candidate for senator, secured a mandamus to compel the county canvassers to throw out marked ballots. Judge Barnard heard arguments on the mandamus Saturday. When the counsel for Osborne had concluded the judge threw the case out of court without hearing a word from the counsel for the Republicans. The judge said that he found nothing in the papers that entitles the relators to any relief. There was nothing to show that there was any design in placing the mark on, or that there was anything connected with the ballots signifying an intention on the part of the voter.

"You cannot deprive these men of their votes because of an ink mark on them. Eighteen ballots cannot be destroyed because a man has gone to one voter and made a proposition to buy his vote. You claim to have proof that this proposition was made to one or more parties, and failed," said the judge. "You surmise that in other cases it succeeded, but you cannot take away these eighteen votes on a surmise without a particle of proof. If these ballots were prepared with evil intent, that does not reach the voter in any case."

The quashing of the Osborne mandamus compels a rightful recount of the ballots, sustains County Clerk Hoffman, who was removed by Governor Hill, in the position he took in refusing to sign the bogus returns, and makes it the duty of the state board of Canvassers to give the certificate to Gilbert A. Deane as Senator-elect in the Fifteenth district. As Mr. Deane is dead, this will necessitate a new election.

A Guilty Conscience Prompts Him to Surround Himself With Detectives.

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 12.—The high hand with which Governor Hill has carried on his scheme to steal the legislature has naturally aroused much indignation. Since the bomb was thrown in Russell Sage's office the would-be dictator has become alarmed for his own safety, and consequently has taken measures to protect his person. Every person applying for the governor at the executive chamber or mansion is carefully examined before being admitted to his presence.

Three detectives accompany Hill to and from the capitol, one walking behind, one in front, and one at his side. Then at night a guard is kept constantly on the alert, patroling about the mansion. It has been remarked frequently of late that the governor's escape from assault was a little short of marvelous.

VETERANS MUST LEAVE.

Two Hundred will be Turned Out of the Milwaukee Branch of the Soldiers' Home.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Dec. 15.—Over 200 veterans will be turned out of the Milwaukee branch of the National Home for Disabled Soldiers as a result of the recent medical examination made by a special commission to ascertain the number of inmates physically able to provide for themselves. This step was authorized by the National Board of Soldiers' Home Managers and was made in the various homes throughout the country as well as at Milwaukee. It was considered necessary to relieve the overcrowded condition of all the homes and to provide quarters for the more deserving ones awaiting admission. The commission in its report says that of 2,252 inmates of the Milwaukee Home examined 184 were found to be physically able to obtain a living without the benefits of the home. Of 101 applicants for admission to the home nineteen were rejected. In addition to the number whose disability is not sufficient enough to warrant their maintenance at the home the commission ascertained that there are 40 inmates who draw pensions large enough to provide for their support outside the home. Some such inmates, as well as drawing pensions, were found to possess more or less property outside the home.

"While recognizing," the report further says, "that it is not one of the functions of the commission to recommend anything whatsoever in regard to the administration of the home, the board begs leave to suggest, inasmuch as there are a large number of men in the home whose only claim to sufficient disability lies in the results of dissipation and drunkenness, that such inmates of the home as are receiving pensions of $10 and upwards and who have no families depending on them for support, should be required to pay something into the treasury of the Home for its maintenance. It will be noted that a large number of men are rated as having sufficient disability on account of premature old age. A large number of these men are free from other disablement than that of whisky disablement or the disability arising from prolonged idleness and lack of personal responsibility."

MCKINLEY'S CONDITION IMPROVED.

He is Able to Sit Up, But Denies Himself to All Callers.

CANTON, O., Dec. 14.—(Special.)—The condition of Major McKinley is improving, and he is to-day able to sit up in his room, although all visitors are denied the privilege of calling. His physician has declared he must be quiet the remainder of the week. He will take a drive to-day if the weather is pleasant.

Death of Miss Julia A. Ames.

BOSTON, Dec. 12.—Miss Julia A. Ames, editor of the *Union-Signal* of Chicago, the official organ of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, died this morning at the Homeopathic hospital in this city. She was an indefatigable worker; she took cold at the recent convention. Miss Ames was a native of Evanston, Ills., and was about 30 years old.

To Decrease the Cotton Acreage.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Dec. 14.—Commissioner Lane, of the department of agriculture of Alabama, has issued a circular to every state agricultural commissioner in the cotton-growing states for the purpose of calling a convention of the farmers of the cotton-growing states to consider the expediency and practicability of decreasing the acreage of cotton in the South.

CARPETS GO DOWN.

Sharp Reduction in Price—The Effect of the New Tariff Law.

A special dispatch from New York, dated December 10, in the Cincinnati *Commercial Gazette* says:

The Alexander Smith & Sons' Carpet company published to-day their "price current" for next season. This company is the largest carpet manufacturing company in the world, and is looked upon as the one which sets the prices for the trade. Their figures show that carpets are cheap under the McKinley bill. To notice prices in detail: Axminsters are reduced $1.50 to $1.20, extra. Gobelin Moquette from $1.60 to $1.35, Moquette from $1.35 to $1.12½, extra velvets from $1.25 to $1.10, extra tapestries from 80c to 67½c; another line of tapestries from 75c to 62½c; B palisade tapestries from 65c to 50c, and F palisade tapestry from 55c to 45c. This is a reduction with a vengeance.

With the publication of these schedules the prices current for the next season of every one of the leading companies is out, including the Bigelow, Hartford, Lowell, Higgins, Dobson, Bromley and Sanford companies. In every case there is a substantial reduction over last season's list. Speaking generally, the higher grades show a cut of from ten to twenty cents a yard, and the qualities in Brussels, tapestry and ingrain from one dollar down being from five to fifteen cents less in price. In not a single instance is there an advance in price, and only in the highest grades, and in exceptional cases of these, is the old price retained. In general, it may be said that carpets will be fully ten per cent lower next spring than they were last year, or than they have ever been before in the history of their manufactura. McKinley gets the credit.

The Belle.

She goes on Sunday three times to church;
She goes whenever she can.
Her grace is sublime, but I notice each time
She goes with a different man.
—[N. Y. Herald.

GEN. ARMSTRONG,

President of Hampton Institute, Va., Who is Critically Ill.

Gen. Samuel C. Armstrong, president of the Hampton Institute, Va., is reported dying at Boston. He was born in the Hawaiian Islands, in 1839, the son of a missionary. In 1860 he entered Williams College, Mass. He fought in the civil war, commanding negro soldiers

GEN. S. C. ARMSTRONG.

during two and a half years of his period of service. In March, 1865, he was assigned a charge in Eastern Virginia, with headquarters at Hampton, "to manage negro affairs and to adjust, if possible, the relations of the races." There he found educational work in progress under the American Missionary association of New York. In 1867, at his suggestion, the American Missionary association bought the estate on which the Institute stands. The Institute was open in April, 1868, with Gen. Armstrong in charge, two teachers and fifteen pupils. Both negroes and Indians are taught here, the latter having been received since 1878, and there are about 650 boarding students. Hampton has 720 graduates. Good people are hoping and praying that Gen. Armstrong may get well and continue his good work.

In an Apartment House.

"I called on Mrs. Newlywedde in their new flat yesterday, and could hardly get a word in edgewise."

"I never knew she was such a talker."

"Oh, it wasn't that—the rooms were so narrow."—[Boston News.

Badly Frightened Scarecrows.

A farmer invented a scarecrow recently which seems to have worked with wonderful effect. It not only scared off every crow that saw it, but one crow was so frightened by the invention that he brought back the corn which he had stolen three days before.—[London Tit-Bits.

"THEY THAT SEEK ME EARLY SHALL FIND ME."

WILLIS GAYLORD CLARK.

Come, while the blossoms of thy years are brightest,
Thou youthful wanderer in a flowery maze;
Come, while the restless heart is bounding lightest,
And joy's pure sunbeam trembles in thy ways;
Come, while sweet thoughts, like summer buds unfolding,
Waken rich feelings in the careless breast;
While yet thy hand, the ephemeral wreath is holding,
Come and secure interminable rest.

Soon will the freshness of thy days be over,
And thy free buoyancy of soul be flown;
Pleasure will fold her wing, and friend and lover
Will to the embraces of the worm have gone!
Those who now love thee will have passed forever—
Their looks of kindness will be lost to thee;
Thou wilt need balm to heal thy spirit's fever,
As thy sick heart broods over years to be!

Come, while the morning of thy life is glowing,
Ere the dim phantoms thou art chasing die;
Ere the gay spell, which earth is round thee throwing,
Fades like the crimson from a sunset sky,
Life is but shadows—save a promise given
That lights the future with a fadeless ray;
Come, touch the scepter—win a hope in heaven—
And turn thy spirit from this world away.

Then will the shadows of this brief existence
Seem airy nothings to thine ardent soul—
And, shadowed brightly in the forward distance,
Will, of thy patient race, appear the goal,
Home of the weary, where in glad reposing;
The spirit lingers in unclouded bliss,
While o'er his dust the curtained grave is closing—
Who would not early choose a lot like this?

Not of That Set.

Proud Beauty—"Oh, we go to Europe every summer. You have been there, I presume."

Mr. Workhardde (meekly)—"Only once. I was there for a few months last year."

"Indeed! Did you—um—meet the Prince of Wales?"

"I saw him."

"But did you meet him socially?"

"Oh, no. I never gamble."—[New York Weekly.

Trust Woman's Wit for an Emergency.

Lawyer (sharply)—"How is it that you know this watch has been in your family thirty years and yet cannot remember your age?"

Witness (slyly)—"Oh, sir, the watch has kept time; I have not."—[Jewellers' Weekly.

The Two Graces.

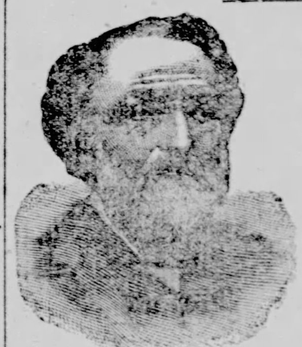
"Amazing grace, how sweet the sound"
That drives away the sinner's woe!
Amazing! Grace, how sad the sound
When to my question you said "No."

A HOME MISSIONARY

HIS EXPERIENCE WITH THE OWEN ELECTRIC BELT

AN OLD MAN

WITH PROGRESSIVE IDEAS AND HIS DESIRE TO ENLIGHTEN THE PUBLIC.



JOSEPH ADDISON HALLOCK, Octogenarian.)

The winter of 1834-35 was my first experience with rheumatism. I was traveling as a home missionary, and with great difficulty and suffering I reached my appointments. It was located in my hips and back. From that time to this year of grace, 1891, I have suffered more or less under the grip of that disease. About three years later, liver complaint, and so calomel taken to cure it, fastened upon the whole mucous coat, a rheumatic affection from which I was never wholly free, and at times even a breath was a cruelty. Yet in a general way my health has been as good, perhaps better than the average.

I have studied electricity in its bearings upon mental and physico mental phenomena for fifty years, and have seen its wonders in these directions, and thus prepared, my attention was easily turned to its efficiency in controlling the nerves, muscles and motions of the living, as galvanism does those of the recent dead.

I have no wish to undervalue any appliance which carries a real electric current from a genuine battery to human nerves, with a gentle, a genial force; but I do wish to do my utmost to disarm public fears as to the well-ordered Electric Belt.

January 30. JOSEPH ADDISON HALLOCK (Octogenarian), Cummings P. O., Chicago, Ill.

NOTICE—The (only) Owen Electric Belt and Appliance Co. is incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois, with a cash capital of $5,000.00. President, Dr. A. Owen; Treasurer, S. M. Owen; Secretary, C. E. Meigs. The Main Offices, Head Salesrooms, and only Factory are

HOME TALKS.

ANNA ELLA CARROLL.

The Author of the Plan of the Tennessee Campaign—The Fact Acknowledged by President Lincoln and His Cabinet.

Who is Anna Ella Carroll?

That question every woman in the land should be able to answer, and not only every woman, but every man, and every child; the latter taught by those who know, and who believe in the recognition of patriotic services, in order that love of country may grow and strengthen in the hearts of its people. That name should be blazoned upon the roll of those whom the nation delights to honor by the side of that of Lincoln, of Grant, of Sherman, of Sheridan. It should be placed there by reason of services rendered in the darkest hour of our country's peril, when her great brain conceived a plan, and her energy urged its adoption upon those who stood with sinking hearts at the helm of the ship of state, and felt that it was drifting to destruction.

If this be so, you who have thought and known little of the matter, may ask why we have heard so little of these great services rendered, and why she has not been rewarded in some degree according to her deserts.

For two reasons:

Because republics are never noted for their gratitude for services done.

Because she is—a woman.

It seems strange, does it not, that the mere matter of sex should cause such a terrible injustice as that of Miss Carroll's treatment by the government through all of these years since the war. Yet it can be nothing else, for her claims do not rest upon the mere assertion of herself and her friends, but there are documents, and letters on file at Washington, and Congressional records that show what her work was, and how its value has been proven many times over. Nor has it ever been antagonized by the leading generals of the war. She has been truthfully termed "the great unrecognized member of Lincoln's cabinet;" and that she was the author of some of the most brilliant military operations of the war cannot be denied. And yet this woman, born to luxury and affluence, educated, refined, accomplished, who gave up to the preservation of the Union all that she had and all that she was; by whose military genius one of the most successful campaigns of the war and which led ultimately to its termination was conceived; this woman is left in her old age, dependent upon the labor of her sister for her daily subsistence. It simply goes to show at what a disadvantage is a disenfranchised class even in a matter of simple justice, whose full recognition would detract from the laurels of some of those masculine brains which were supposed to have been equal to all of the demands of the war. And perhaps they were. If no Anna Ella Carroll had existed, the war might have been successfully concluded, but until she came forward, no one *had* conceived so comprehensive a plan as that, which was at her instigation carried out, with such wide-reaching effects. I allude, of course, to that of the Tennessee campaign.

The ground has been so often gone over in the examination of her claims, so many articles have been written concerning it, that it seems as if everybody, and especially all women, must understand, must know, must feel that to her belongs the gratitude of the nation, as to the other great generals of the war. For great she certainly was, great of brain, as well as great of heart, and a true patriot, when all around her was rebellion.

From the last report which was "printed by order of Congress," that of the Military committee of 1881, I gather a complete acknowledgement of the following facts:

"That Miss Anna Ella Carroll was the author of the change of plan which involved a transfer of the national forces to their new base in North Mississippi and Alabama, in command of the Memphis & Charleston railroad.

"That she devoted time and money in the autumn of 1861 to the investigation of its feasibility, and that after the investigation she submitted her plan in writing to the War department at Washington, placing it in the hands of the assistant secretary of War, Col. Thomas A. Scott, and it was by him submitted to and adopted by President Lincoln and his advisers, who, one and all, confirmed this statement at various times.

"That this campaign prevented the recognition of Southern independence by its fatal effects on the Confederate stores, as shown by letters from the United States ministers at St. Petersburg, London and Paris.

"That this campaign defeated national bankruptcy, then imminent, and opened the way for a system of finance to defend the Federal cause.

"That no plan, order, letter, telegram, or suggestion of the Tennessee river as the line of invasion has ever been produced except in the paper submitted by Miss Carroll on the 20th day of November, 1861, and her subsequent letters to the government as the campaign progressed.

"That her able and patriotic publications in pamphlets and newspapers, with her high social influence not only largely contributed to the cause of the Union in her own state of Maryland, but exerted a wide and salutary influence on all of the border states.

"That these publications were used by the government as war measures, and the debate in Congress shows that she was the first writer on the war powers of the government. That leading statesmen and jurists bore testimony to their value, including President Lincoln, Secretaries Chase, Stanton, Seward, Welles, Smith and many others whose names are familiar as household words."

I have only given above a skeleton of the report. General Bragg, the chairman of the committee, prepared a bill to accompany the report, recommending that the same sum and emoluments given by the government to the major generals of the United States army be paid to Anna Ella Carroll from the date of her services to the country in November, 1861, to the time of the passage of the act, and to the end of her life, as a partial measure of recognition of her services to the nation.

Was anything accomplished? Nothing, except the report was left standing, but, frightened at what they had done in preparing such a bill, which was only justice, at the last moment it was withdrawn, and one substituted, recommending that Miss Carroll be paid the pitiful sum of $50 a month after the passage of the act, during her life. What a bill by the side of that report! And Congress let even that die, and has postponed action all these years since, upon this unwelcome claim that always will turn up, "incontestably proven." Miss Carroll has no public national recognition of her services, and no pension, while the widow of one of the generals who assisted in carrying out the campaign which she projected, is now receiving a pension of $5,000 a year. The very stones should cry out against such injustice.

Miss Carroll is a woman. In that lies the head and front of her offending. Being a woman, she sat silent in the gallery of the House of Representatives and heard the discussion as to who should be thanked for the planning and organizing of these victories. Being a woman, the avowal of her authorship during the struggle would, it was decided, have injured the cause; and she uttered no word of affirmation.

It is a shame, a disgrace to the nation that this thing is.

Why do I write of it now? Because my attention was recently attracted, through the reading of the little volume by Sarah Ellen Blackwell, detailing in full, by compilation from family records and Congressional documents, what this notable woman has done, and how rewarded—a story which I had never before clearly understood. Because every woman in America owes it to her sex to use pen and voice in protesting against this wrong until it is righted. Because Congress has just assembled and there is now another opportunity for action in this direction. Much has been done by eminent women to prevent Mrs. Carroll's work from "falling into oblivion" and no doubt much more will be done, but, meantime, it behooves each and every woman of us whenever and wherever it is possible, to add to the tide of influence setting towards the capital city.

EMILY S. BOUTON.

Household Economies.

NOW that Thanksgiving is past, how many of the readers of the HOUSEHOLD feel as if, with the extra work of preparation, and of restoring their household arrangements to their normal condition afterwards, that it costs more than it comes to to celebrate, and begin already to dread the Christmas festivities? As long as custom compels us to have at these times such dinners and suppers as will take the time and strength of some one to prepare them, the only way to help that "some one" (usually the mother of the family) is to commence these preparations some time before they are needed. If you propose to have mince pies, plum pudding or fruit cake for the Holidays you can prepare them several weeks in advance so that when *the* day of days comes, you will not have these to add to the other work. Raisins can be cut and stoned, currants washed and dried, and citron sliced and put away till needed. These things can be done in the evenings, if you have a little time, and as it will be "sitting-down work," it will not require you to let the children help, they will feel that they are of some account if they can help about such work, and not have them feel, as a boy of our acquaintance said—that when there was wood or water to be brought, or errands to be done, or any *dirty* work, then he was "counted in," but when they were making good things and there was any fun going on in the kitchen, boys were in the way at his house. What if they do make an occasional mistake about where the raisins are to go—in the bowl, or in their mouth—it is only natural, and if you take the right way with them, you will get very much more help than hindrance from them.

When your meat is ready to be chopped, and you need to have the apples pared, invite your husband and older sons to help you—don't do it yourself because you "always *have* done it." There are very many wives and mothers who are worn out with hard work because they won't ask for help.

Some think no one can do the work as well as they can themselves—what if they cannot? Let them do the best they can then—the world will still move on if everything isn't just as you would like to have it, and rest is worth more to you than that your work should be "just so" every time. Other women say: "If my husband and children do not see how tired I am, and *offer* to help me, I will never ask them as long as I can stand." The idea of expecting more than one man in a thousand to see such things. As long as a woman keeps on with her work husband and children take it for granted that she can do so, whereas, if she would give them to understand that there is a limit to her strength and ability to do, and that beyond that limit she will not go, but will expect them to do their part, there will be found very few men who will not be willing and ready to assist in any way they can. They only need telling, and it is a very foolish woman who will work till she is tired (and cross) rather than ask for help.

Therefore, endeavor to obtain all the assistance from your family that you can, take plenty of time, for preparation, be patient with those who are not so well able to do the work as you are, and ten to one you will be able to enjoy your Christmas much better than you did your Thanksgiving. Remember, always, that the best economy for a home-maker (which the mother surely is) is economy of her strength and time.

Fancy Work and House Decoration.

A very pretty box may be made to hold all sorts of things in this way: Take a paste-board box, about six inches square, and cover the outside with pink or yellow-corded silk, or plush may be used for the purpose. Put a thickness of perfumed wadding on the inside, and then the white silk lining. Gather a piece of the same or of some contrasting silk—a deeper shade of the same is pretty—and sew it carefully along the edge of the box. Turn in the top of the silk for a rather deep hem. Run a second line around above the hem and into this shirr draw ribbons, leaving a full ruffle above. A row of applique daisies put on over the joining of the silk with the box is pretty, or any other flower can be used.

A FANCIFUL CUSHION.—An odd but pretty pin-cushion, to stand in the deep, middle recess of a dressing bureau, is made in imitation of a curtained bed. The foundation is a pasteboard box about ten inches long and six wide. The cover is set up lengthwise to form the back and canopy frame; the end of the box is set against the cover, and sewed on firmly. The box is then stuffed with bran, covered with white muslin, and dressed with a little lace or figured muslin quilt lined with a color, and a pair of pillows with pillow-shams to correspond with the quilt. A flat plaiting of satin ribbon, or a fall of lace, is put on to cover the sides of the bed, and the top is furnished with curtains of lace or muslin, lined with silk, and drawn through a ring sewed to the top of the headpiece. The back of the box, it should have been said, may be covered smoothly with sateen or muslin before the drapery is added.

BEDROOM RACK.—This is a great convenience and made very plain or as much of an ornament as anyone pleases. Have a board 8 inches wide and 12 inches long. Cover this with plush which has been embroidered with a vine around the edge or left without any trimming. In the center nail with fancy-headed tacks a band an inch wide and three inches long, or just long enough to allow a whisk broom to be drawn through. Make this band of satin of a contrasting color. This, too, may be embroidered. It should be lined with silk or silesia. On each side of this screw several small hooks to hang scissors, keys and button-hooks upon. If any one does not want to make it expensive with plush, it may be covered with handsome cretonne. Hang it up with a ribbon.

Send 15 cents to Miss Emily S. Bouton, Toledo, O., for "Fancy Work and House Decoration No. 3," before they are all gone.

Knitting and Crocheting.

Knitting Abbreviations—k, knit; p, purl or seam; p 2 tog, purl two together; n, narrow; s and b, slip and bind, tto, throw thread over; b, bind; o, over; sl, slip; m, make.

Crocheting Abbreviations—l, loop; s c, single crochet; d c, double crochet; c st, chain stitch; ci cs st, close chain stitch; d ch st, double chain stitch; p, picot; p d c, picot crochet; o s st, crossed treble stitch; sn st, shell stitch; o sh st, open shell stitch; tr, treble; sh c, short crochet.

INFANT'S SOCK IN STAR STITCH for Mrs. A. Q.—Make a chain of 46 stitches; make a row of 19 stars, and join by drawing thread through the top loop of first star, make five more rows and break the thread, leaving it long enough to tie when you wish to begin again. Make four rows of four stars, each directly in front of the sock, breaking off at the end of each row. Tying your thread begin at the back and crochet two rows all around, widening at the corners; crochet a third row without widenings, in the fourth crochet ten stars, narrow by crocheting two stars together, make one, narrow—make one, narrow, make one, narrow, make ten. Fifth row—Make eight stars, narrow, make one, narrow, make one, narrow, make one, narrow, make eight stars, join by drawing the thread through the opposite holes of each star, crochet two rows of shells round the top, run a cord, with tassels or balls, around the ankle, and the sock is finished. Two colors may be prettily combined in this to suit the fancy. If the sock is too short when it is finished, (which mine was for 2-50, my year-old baby) you can make it longer by adding another row or two on the front before you begin to widen. It will require pretty coarse yarn to make them large enough for a baby that can walk.

If you add any on the front, you must make one more star for each row before you begin to narrow.—A KANSAS SISTER.

Correspondence.

SOME VERY FAMILIAR OCCURRENCES WELL WRITTEN UP.—"Children should be seen, not heard," is an adage very familiar to the little folks of a generation ago; but now young America insists on being both heard and seen, sometimes to the discomfiture of parents and teachers. I remember once attending a county teachers' meeting held in a pretty little town in one of the northern counties of Michigan.

With generous hospitality the people of the place opened their doors to receive all teachers coming from other towns and, with my associate teachers, I became the guest of the wife of the mayor of the town.

I have seldom seen a table more carefully arranged than the one at which we took our places for dinner that day; china, silver, glassware and linen were all of good quality and well cared for, and well-cooked and abundant food bore testimony to our hostess's culinary skill.

Two little girls, quiet and well-behaved, had places near me. Next to her mother, and opposite me at the table, sat a pretty little 3 year-old, evidently the tyrant of the household. She began entertaining the company promptly, though perhaps unwittingly. "What zis ittle towel, mamma?" she asked, taken up her napkin. "That's a napkin, to spread over your pretty new dress," explained the mother, putting it in place, and then she added to us, "she has always worn a bib, I thought she ought to learn how to use a napkin." "Why doesn't we has nackins every day mamma?" then before this query could be answered, "mamma, I isn't dot any pate," and with a glance around the table, "mamma, nobody isn't dot any pate!" "Papa has all the plates, dear," interposed that gentleman, "he will wait on you presently."

"Papa doesn't has all 'e pates ewvy day," said Mabel confidentially to the visitor next her. Two or three of us made a hasty attempt to talk about the weather, but the child soon had the floor again. "Mamma, why doesn't we eat wiv dese pitty knives when we eat in 'e kitsen? and our old pates isn't dot not any fowers on—dese is pitty," she said, and our hostess's face flushed as she looked at me, "Miss Husted, won't you have a glass of milk, and serve your friends?"

And as I filled and passed the handsome cut glass goblets beside my plate, Mabel assured me that "mamma buyed lots of milk zis morning—mamma doesn't buy milk ewvy day."

By this time Mabel's plate was placed before her, and her interest in her dinner put a stop to her talk, while her mother's evident embarrassment was relieved by the pleasant conversation which became general around the table.

Presently, however, an older sister began deftly removing the dinner plates, and this elicited another question. "Mamma, what Tarry tate all 'e pates way for?" "Carrie is going to bring you some pie on another plate," explained the sister patiently, and then Mabel looked at us again. "Tarry doesn't tate all 'e pates ewwy day," she said gravely. "Isn't Louis at home, Mrs. V.?" inquired Miss B., who had formerly been employed in the city schools. "I thought I should see him to-day." "Lou is eated dinner in 'e kitsen, wiv him old coat on," replied Mabel promptly, and her mother could hardly conceal her vexation as she answered, "Louis was so busy gathering in to-day that he would not stop for anything but a lunch. He goes to school, and has only Saturday for his own undertakings."

Pumpkin and mince pie, each simply perfect in its way, was now served on dainty hand-painted plates, and Mabel had an opportunity for another question. "Mamma, why doesn't 'ou make 'pie ewwy day?" then to us, "Mamma made pie zis day 'cause 'ou did come." We ignored this unconfidence, admired our plates and praised the pie, but I think we all felt relieved when dessert was over, and we were at liberty to return to the parlor, whither the children accompanied us. The noon recess was short, and as Mrs. V. wished to attend the afternoon session with us we were soon ready to take leave. The little girls said "good by" very politely, and Carrie, the eldest, opened the hall door for us, with a cordial invitation to come again.

Mabel found a chance to speak, too. "Mamma, mus Tarry shut 'e door and winnows when you is done? Tan't we play in here zis afnoon?" I do not know what her mother thought. I went away from the house where I, a stranger, had been made a welcome and most courteously treated guest, with the feeling that I had, without will of my own, penetrated farther than was desirable into the home life of my entertainers, and that day, as never before, I realized the folly of stinting one's own family in order to set delicacies before strangers, of living in the kitchen that parlor and dining-room furniture may retain its newness and freshness, of putting away china and silver, and using commonest earthenware and steel.

Not that I advocate wastefulness or extravagance in cooking, or needless wear and tear of furniture, but the daily life of a household is the important factor in the training of children; they are either simply and naturally honest, or they assume to be that which they are not, for the sake of appearance, according to their home training.

That night as Miss Blake and I, back at our pleasant room, sat talking over the incidents of the day, she said, emphatically, "If ever I have a house, we'll use it all, and we'll have 'nackins' and pie 'ewwy day' for dinner."

"That was mother's way, at home," I answered, with a sudden homesick memory of a rambling, comfortable old farmhouse, which never boasted a parlor, but whose doors swung wide for hosts of guests who fared as we fared, and who went away only to come again.

Let us have no pretense, honesty is best; what we cannot afford for ourselves we cannot afford for others.—MARGARET HUSTED.

Inquiries.

Will some one tell me if chamois skins can be washed without spoiling them, if so, should I use hot or cold water?—KATE.

What is "scrapple?" I read in a paper not long ago that it was excellent for breakfast, but neither my market man nor grocer know what it is. Will some one tell me?—MRS. L. L. D.

Will some one send recipe for spiced eggs? I have eaten them at restaurants, but never could obtain the recipe.—MRS. ANNA CARROLL.

Will some one send a receipe for a pudding that is not made of bread or rice?—ALICE M.

What do the sisters of the HOUSEHOLD think of the promiscuous kissing games that are allowed at parties and socials, where dancing and cards are prohibited?—DICK.

Can some one tell me how to make cream puffs? Those that seem to be whole cakes, but when broken open are filled with cream.—ADDIE V.

Will some one send directions for crocheting a gentleman's necktie of silk; also how to knit a scarf to wear outside of an overcoat, around a gentleman's neck?—E. C. C.

Will some one send directions of how to arrange the parlors, hall and dining room for a home wedding? Money no object—everything must be nice.—MRS. J. J. D.

Will some one send a name for my boy baby? He has dark hair and eyes, and will probably be a large man so we do not want any "baby" names.—YOUNG MOTHER No. 2.

Will some one tell me if they have found it profitable to keep bees and sell the honey? or would chickens pay better? I have a little money to invest and would like practical advice.—JOHN K. BRUCE.

Can any one give me a sure cure for corns? I live too far from a city to go to a chiropodist, and have tried everything I know of with no effect.—JUNE ROSE.

Answers to Inquiries.

Mrs. L. H., one of the prettiest Christmas presents that you could give your friend is the BLADE souvenir tea spoon. It is of heavy solid silver. In the bowl is a splendid bas-relief of the Toledo Memorial Hall, which was built in honor of the old soldiers. Upon the back is a fac-simile of the famous sword made in Toledo, Spain, and presented to the late D. R. Locke by the Spanish Centennial commissioners to the Philadelphia Exposition of 1876. You can get it by sending five dollars for five new subscribers to the Weekly BLADE, or they will send you a spoon and the BLADE a year for $3, or the spoon alone for $2.50, which is the regular retail price.—[Ed.

If Grace Merrick will be so kind as to send her postoffice address to the BLADE she will receive an answer to her questions.—[Ed.

Mrs. A. A. Crow:—You will find the answer to your inquiry in a recent number of THE BLADE. "Veratrum" can be procured at any Homeopathic Pharmacy, and probably at any first-class drug store.—Ed.

Sid:—The papers sent to different departments of THE BLADE, should each be signed with your name, so as to prevent mistakes. There are some Chautauqua Circles where persons as young as you are admitted; it depends very much upon the size of the circle and the ability of the applicant to keep up with the course of study. By writing to Miss Kate Kimball, secretary C. L. S. C., Buffalo, N. Y., you can obtain all the information you desire.—ED.

Mrs. C. S. K.:—We are not at liberty to give the address of any person, without their consent, for the purpose of enabling societies or agents to apply to them for assistance in their work, however worthy that work may be.—ED.

Mrs. Ella H.:—Jean Hunt is—Jean Hunt, and is a "truly correspondent." Her letters are not "made up by some dressmaker," although we consider that any dressmaker might feel proud of doing the work that Jean Hunt accomplishes.—ED.

To "Anxious Mother" for Whooping Cough give: 1 oz. boneset or thoroughwort; 1 oz. licorice stick; 1 oz. slippery elm (ground); 1 oz. flax seed (ground; 1 pt. best molasses; ¼ lb. loaf sugar. Simmer boneset in water and add other ingredients. A tablespoonful at a time, several times a day, will break up whooping cough.—MRS. MERLATT.

Menu for a Course Luncheon.

Broiled Oysters.
Clear Soup, served in cups.
Chicken Patties. Lamb Chops.
Tomato Sauce. Dinner Rolls.
Lettuce Salad. Mayonaise Dressing.
Water Crackers. Cheese Fingers.
Cream. Cake. Fruit.
Coffee.

The broiled oysters may be served on spits made of a common skewer, cut to the desired length to hold four or five oysters, which, after being nicely broiled, are to be impaled on the skewer, and served. Little bows of ribbon tied to the "handle" of the skewer have a very pretty effect. The chops should be garnished with the little fancy papers that come for that purpose, twisted about the bone end. Cheese fingers, to be served with the salad, can be tied in little bundles with narrow ribbons, or on a plate, with a cheese doily or lace paper under them. The cream can be served in paper cases ornamented with flowers, or in individual bricks or shapes.

Recipes.

MOCK DUCK.—Freshen a piece of salt beef quite fresh, place it in a kettle with plenty of water and 1 fair sized carrot; some dried celery, celery salt, or celery seed; a little sage, thyme and sweet marjoram. Let boil two hours, take out meat, prepare dressing as for roast duck, and either wrap meat around dressing or slice meat and place dressing between the slices. Put it in a bake pan, pour in a little liquor from kettle and bake one. If liked, put potatoes, turnips and some cabbage in the remaining liquor and serve as vegetable soup. Use onions if liked. Ten cents worth of each of the sweet herbs may be purchased at the drug store and will last a year.

MOCK VENISON.—Prepare as above, omitting dressing and onion, and adding a few dried sassafras buds, or three or four drops of the oil of sassafras.—MOLLIE.

STEAMED PUDDING.—(For Ellen)—Two eggs; sugar, 1 cup; sour milk, 1 cup; saleratus, ½ teaspoonfull; a little salt; dried whortleberries, currants, raisins or other fruit, 1 cup; flour enough to make it thicker than for cake; put in a 2 qt. basin and set in the steamer and steam an hour and a half, and, I think, it will crack open on the back; if not, try again. It is worth the trouble, especially if you have plenty of sweet cream. If this doesn't suit I have several other good recipes, including the old English Christmas plum pudding. You can use any sauce, or dip, for the pudding.—E. J. C.

Shall be glad of the recipes.—ED.

PUMPKIN PIE.—Clean, pare and cut into small pieces a well ripened pumpkin. Put it in a large kettle, and pour in at least a pint of water; let cook as rapidly as you can, stirring often, to keep from burning, until it is like mush; now change to the back of stove or range and simmer slowly, till the moisture is nearly cooked out; when cool, press through a colander. For the pies, take 3 cups of pumpkin, 1¼ cups sugar, 1 tablespoonful of ginger, the same of flour; add a little salt; stir this well into the pumpkin, add 3 eggs, or 2 teaspoonfuls corn starch, and 3 pints milk. This makes three pies; bake one hour in slow oven. These are genuine New England pies. You can use sweet pumpkins or squash.

CHRISTMAS GAIETIES

TRIM THE HOUSE WITH EVERGREENS

Another Entertainment Given—This One Suited to Societies Desiring to Hold Holiday Markets.

Next week the Merry Christmas time will be here, and it is everybody's duty to be as glad and happy as possible, to have a good time oneself, but to let that good time be partly, if not wholly, made by rendering others happy.

Of course you will want to trim your house with green, because it would not seem like Christmas without it. Holly is pre-eminently the season's decorations, but other evergreens will do well if that cannot be had. Mass branches in various places; put them over the sideboard, mantel-pieces, and if you have a fire place fill a jar and put it therein. If you have no jar suitable, get a half barrel, saw it down to about eighteen inches of the floor, paint it green, or even red or yellow. Then set a pail inside to hold the water that is to keep the greens fresh as long as possible. Should the sawing down of the barrel cause the staves to spring a part, tie a rope around near the top, then gild or paint the rope. Get sprays of ivy and put them in bottles with water to fasten behind pictures. These bottles may be hung by a string around the neck to a nail behind the pictures, and the ivy twined around and above the latter.

Very pretty decorations may be made with the Wandering Jew that grows so rapidly, if it is started early enough. Then the floral balls made by trimming off a sponge, pulling ribbons through it to suspend it by, having it just damp enough not to drip, and sprinkling flax seed over it to grow as they will, is very pretty. But these things must be attended to early enough in the season to be at their best at Christmas.

Of course the Christmas tree for the gifts is always in order, but if something different is desired, a device that causes an almost endless amount of fun is the hiding of the presents and compelling all of the expectant receivers to hunt those out intended for them. Or strings may be attached to them and the ends all gathered together in one place with cards designating the person who must follow each one to its place.

Another way is to wrap them up in all sorts of absurd ways, the smallest thing in the greatest number of wraps, so as to make a bulky package, and everything disguised so that no hint can be obtained of what any article may be. Wool and straw, as well as paper, may be used for this purpose. In Sweden and Norway they throw gifts into the windows or doors at unexpected times.

Christmas games are very much the same as those played at Hallowe'en; such as Snap Dragon, Hot Cockles, and telling fortunes by Nutshell boats. Anything which will create merriment is in order Christmas.

The Ages of Man.

This entertainment may be given in three ways: the literary part alone; the booths alone; or both combined. In the latter case, the booths should remain closed, until after the other part of the programme is finished.

The literary programme should begin with the recitation of Shakespeare's "Seven Ages of Man," in "As You Like It."

Act 2, scene 7.

The next two numbers should be of an "infantile" character, as: a "Lullaby" song and Jongs's Baby;"

The next two should be for the boys—Peck's Bad Boy—might relate some of his pranks, and a chorus of boys should sing a good rollicking song;

Next should come a sentimental recitation and ballad;

Next, a war song and recitation;

Next, something to suit the Justice.

Last, "The Old Folks at Home," or some similar piece, and a recitation to match.

This may close the programme, and be followed by refreshments and dancing, or by the following:

Seven booths must be arranged around the hall.

Over the entrance to the first is this motto:

"At first, the Infant—
Mewling and puking in its nurse's arms."

At this booth, all kinds of knitted goods for babies—such as socks, shirts, hoods, jacquets, &c., can be offered for sale. Also, knitted or rag dolls, rubber rings, rattles, &c.

Over the next booth is the motto:

"Then the whining school-boy, with his satchel,
"And shining morning face."

The stock here should consist of slates, pencils, sponges, tops, marbles, jackknives, &c.

Thd third booth bears this motto:

"And then the lover,
Sighing like furnace, with a woful ballad
Made to his mistress's eye-brow."

Scented note paper, bon-bons, ribbons, fascinators, daintily worked aprons, handkerchiefs, etc., are sold here.

The fourth booth has this motto:

"Then the soldier—
Full of strange oaths, and beared like the pard."

Cigar cases, embroidered tobacco pouches, chamois bags for shot, etc., diversified with a few tin trumpets, toy drums and swords may be offered here.

Over the fifth booth is inscribed:

"And then the Justice,
"With eyes severe, and beard of formal cut."

Blanks for deeds, mortgages, leases, etc., can be sold here; also pens and ink, pen-wipers, fancy blotters and writing-pads, and if it could be arranged to have a "really-truly" Justice, marry a "really-truly" couple, in front of the booth during the evening, that were an attraction indeed.

The sixth booth has this motto:

"The Sixth age shifts
"Into the lean and slippered Pantaloon."

Here are on sale, dressing gowns, woolen or chamois slippers, spectacle brighteners and cases, silk "bandana" handkerchiefs, etc.

The booths should be arranged in the form of a horseshoe, with the seventh booth in the center.

This is the refreshment booth, and must have six tables, each numbered, and having the same motto as the booth having the corresponding number.

At the first table, bread and milk is served.

At the second table, apples, molasses candy, nuts, doughnuts, cookies and gingerbread.

At the third table, lady fingers, ices and sweetmeats.

At the fourth table, ham sandwiches, bologna, bread and other hearty food.

At the fifth table, salads, cold meats, pies, cake, coffee, etc.

At the sixth table, minced veal, soft biscuits and other easily masticated food.

To societies desiring to hold Christmas markets this will be proved to be a very taking way, and from its novelty of arrangement will be a relief from the usual manner of conducting such sales.

Can You Eat

Heartily, with relish and without distress afterward? If not, we recommend to you Hood's Sarsaparilla, which creates a good appetite and so invigorates the stomach and bowels that the food is properly digested and all its nutriment assimilated.

Hood's Pills are purely vegetable, perfectly harmless, effective, but do not cause pain or gripe. Be sure to get Hood's.

A Disgusted Poet.

Tom—Did you send that poem you wrote to your sweetheart?

Jack—Yes, but I shall never write any more.

Tom—Why not?

Jack—When I called next evening after sending the poem, almost the first thing she said was: "Oh, Jack, I want to show you some doggerel that some fool sent me."—[Yankee Blade.

AN OPPORTUNE FRIEND will be found in Dr. D. Jayne's Expectorant, when racked by a severe Cold, and the many Lung or Throat affections which sometimes follow. This old remedy has met the approval of two generations, and is to-day as popular, safe, and effective as ever.

BLADE TEMPERANCE LEGION.

Motto: "Of Ourselves We Will be Masters."

Pledge:

We do hereby promise ourselves that, from this time until we are 21 years old, we will not taste intoxicating liquors of any kind, and that we will exert all our influence to prevent their use by others. Witness our names:

WADY PETRA, ILL.
Myrtle J. Seiders.

RAMAPO, N. Y.
Walter C. Jackson.

WOOD, N. D.
Tessie I. Phillips, Charlie A. Phillips,
Willie E. Phillips, Hattie L. Phillips.

Names this week, 6. Total, 31,570.
The above embraces all names received up to December 14.

The following lines were composed impromptu by a little girl of 15, while engaged in the work of

MAKING CAKE:

O Nelly, my dear,
Aren't you glad I am here,
To help Belle to make
This beautiful cake?
Now we know it's nice,
For we're measured the spice,
The sugar and flour,
And stirred it an hour.
We stood on our legs,
And beat these two eggs
Until they were tired—
The legs, not the eggs—
And we greatly admired
The stirring and beating,
And hope to the ceiling;
For every one knows
'Twould only be fair
That we have a big share,
As we've had all the care.
Most expectantly, Rose.

Spelling "Kitten."

A dear little girl,
With her brain in a whirl,
Was asked the word "kitten" to spell.
"K-double t-t-
T-e-n," said she,
And thought she had done very well.
"Has kitten two l's?"
And the teacher's surprise
With mirth and impatience was blent.
"*My* kitty has two,"
Said Marjory Lou,
And she looked as she felt—quite content.
—[St. Nicholas.

DILLY'S FAMILY HISTORY.

BY K. A. K.

My name is Adele Margaret Chester, but my big cousin Fred sometimes calls me Daffy Down-Dilly, and sometimes, when I don't do things quite quick enough to suit him, Dilatory; and then I poke worse than ever just a purpose to make him mad.

The rest of the family most generally just call me Dilly, 'cepting when we have company from way off, and then papa says: "And this is my daughter, Adele," and that always makes me feel very dignified, so that I sit straight up in my chair and don't swing my feet and 'member to say "Yes, sir," and "no, sir," and "if you please."

I'm 8 going on 9. Beth is 11, most three years older than I am.

Beth is my sister and her name is Elizabeth May Chester.

Mamma thinks our names are all passably pretty, 'cepting Adolphus. He was named after papa. But then we can call him Dolph, and that isn't so bad, 'sides mamma says its got a sort of 'ristocratic sound and every little beggar on the street isn't called it like they are Tom, Dick and Harry, and that's one great comfort. But I guess she would have been glad enough to have called him Harry, for I heard her say one time that she thought it was so "pretty and unpretentious."

At any rate Dolph is pretty if his name isn't. He's most 2 and has got the sweetest face you ever saw, and such cute little rings of golden hair all over his head. When he has on his embroidered white swiss dress and his brocaded blue silk sash, he looks just like a little angel. But mamma says he's got a horrible temper and is far enough from being an angel, goodness knows. And I guess she is about right, for he'll throw himself right down on the floor and scream and kick with all his might, if he can't have his own way, till we're glad enough to let him, I can tell you, and then he's sweet as sugar.

And one day when mamma wouldn't let him do something he wanted to, he threw a bottle of black ink all over her pink silk tea gown. Oh, my, wasn't she mad! You'd just better believe. I guess Dolph was kind of scart, too, 'cause he never did such a thing again.

Afternoons mamma has him dressed up and brought down stairs to help entertain the callers. He says real cute things and keeps them laughing all the time. But sometimes he says things mamma don't like and then she has him sent away again quick enough.

She lets Beth and me take him out riding in his cab mornings, and every one we meet says, "What a lovely child!" And if they have time they stop and talk to him, and he always answers right back, and that 'muses them and they laugh awful hard, and then they want to kiss him, but mamma told him he mustn't let them, only his hand. She said she didn't 'prove of babies being kissed by every one, 'sides it wasn't good form.

Dolph minds her first rate 'cept when some one kisses him quick before he can help himself, and then he screams until they're glad enough to let him alone, and you can just believe they don't try it again very soon.

He's an awful spunky little fellow. Papa says he's spoilt. But Beth and I aren't spoilt.

Beth's pretty. She's got curly hair, too, only it ain't like Dolph's. It is brown and long and heavy and so soft. Beth ain't a bit proud. She thinks I'm pretty, but I ain't, 'cepting my eyes and complexion. Mamma says she's thankful 'nough they're decent else I'd be quite an ordinary looking child, and that's something she can't 'bominate.

Then papa laughs and says it's better to be good than beautiful. I guess the reason papa always stands up for me is because every one says I look like him. Dolph looks like mamma. But then I don't mind not being beautiful one bit. Every one makes such an awful fuss over you if you are, and wants to kiss you and keep staring at you all the time. Beth says it's real tiresome. Only sometimes they give you candy and 'course that's nice. But Beth's real generous and always divides straight. Dolph don't, though; he eats his all himself and won't give Beth or me so much as a bite. Mamma laughs and says he's a little pig and she gives Beth and me each a nickel to buy some with.

But Beth says I've written about enough now and she guesses I'd better stop, 'cause family histories are always sort of dry and tiresome, and p'raps she's right.

Beth's got rheumatism in her wrist so she can't write, but she hunted all the hard words up in the dictionary, and helped me when ever I got stuck and couldn't think of anything to say. Papa says he's 'sprised, 'cause he had no idea such a thing would ever happen. He says he thought my thinker was oiled like my tongue and would never run down.

Cousin Fred told me, once, that my tongue was hung in the middle and wagged both ways. But he was mistaken, 'cause it wasn't.

I told Beth and had her look at it, but she said she couldn't see but what it was like any one else's tongue. Still I felt kind of worried, 'cause, s'posing it was, you know—so I examined it real careful with mamma's little hand glass—the one she looks at her back hair with, and 'twas all right.

But Beth says I'm wandering again and that I'd better finish up quick, and then I'll be sure and be through, so I s'pose I'll have to say good-bye.

Oh, I forgot to tell you that maybe Beth and I will write something more some time, and it will be twice as good as this, 'cause we'd had 'sperience, now, and papa says 'sperience counts half.

A Lonely Little Girl.

The people of Holland are very proud of their noble Rijks Museum in Amsterdam, into which are gathered the treasures which illustrate the growth of the arts and sciences in their kingdom from barbarous ages until the present time. The great corridors are usually crowded with all classes of the Dutch nation. A visitor to the Museum last summer noticed that the long procession swerved aside from the galleries of pictures and statues, to pass through a little room which held only a large blank book inscribed with the names of noted visitors.

Upon the open page of this book was written, in a child's unsteady, careful hand:

WILHELMINA.

It was a motley crowd that paused to look at this name, and a picturesque one, for the Dutch still wear many of their national costumes. There were nobles with their equerries, wealthy burghers, peasant women from Zeeland in hooped skirts and white caps, with gold helmets; priests in black gowns, with white cords about their waists; maid servants from Scheveningen, with huge golden corkscrew pins in their hair, and orphan boys from the Stadt asylum, one-half of their bodies clothed in black, the other in scarlet.

On each face, old or young, came the same amused, tender smile as they saw the childish writing, and they passed on, nodding to each other with delighted approval.

"She writes well."

"She is wonderfully clever!"

"Ah, the dear child!"

"Who is this child whom everybody loves?" asked the American visitor of a Dutch lady standing near her.

"She is die kleine Koningin, our queen, Wilhelmina," was the reply. "She is only ten years old, and not a strong child; but each of us prays every day for her life as if she was one of our own. That is not only because she is the last of the royal race, and if she dies, Holland would be torn to pieces by wars for the succession, but because we love her. She is so good, so honest and friendly a child!"

Wilhelmina is a slight, erect child, with brown hair, a smiling mouth, and dark, candid, friendly eyes. She lives with her mother, the regent, in the pretty chateau of St. Loo in summer, and in one wing of the royal palace at the Hague in winter. The great state ball-rooms and throne-hall are closed since her father's death, and the little maid has a wing of the palace like a cozy house to live in, full of pretty china stoves and easy chairs, with flowers in the windows; but few girls have so lonely a life as she.

"She cannot play with other children," said one of her subjects. "Whom could she have for a companion? She is queen. She must study, study; she must learn to rule."

Poor lonely little queen. Yet she has her pleasures.

When her mother's last birthday arrived, Wilhelmina, with great joy, surprised her with her portrait, painted by a famous artist. She had contrived to keep the secret for months, and had chosen a dress to wear which her dead father had given her.

S

News of the Week.

☞ THE BLADE is a newspaper for free American citizens, and under the above head, aims to give, first, those events which are the history and progress of the world for the week—those which every intelligent man needs to know and should know; second, all important political events; and, lastly, the leading minor occurrences that possess interest to every educated and thinking reader.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

The reports of the heads of the several executive departments, required by law to be submitted to me, which are herewith transmitted, and the reports of the secretary of the Treasury and the Attorney General, made directly to Congress, furnish a comprehensive view of the administrative work of the last fiscal year relating to internal affairs. It would be of great advantage if these reports could have an attentive perusal by every member of Congress, and by all who take an interest in public affairs. Such a perusal could not fail to excite a higher appreciation of the vast labor and conscientious effort which are given to the conduct of our civil administration.

The report will, I believe, show that every question has been approached, considered and decided from the standpoint of public duty and upon considerations affecting the public interests alone. Again I invite to every branch of the service the attention and scrutiny of Congress.

THE STATE DEPARTMENT.

Reciprocity—The Bering Sea Question to Be Arbitrated.

The work of the State department during the last year has been characterized by an unusual number of important negotiations and by diplomatic results of a notable and highly beneficial character. Among these are the reciprocal trade arrangements, which have been concluded, in the exercise of the powers conferred by section 3 of the tariff law, with the republic of Brazil, with Spain for its West India possessions, and with San Domingo. The negotiations with other countries have been much advanced, and it is hoped that before the close of the year further definite trade arrangements of great value will be concluded.

In my last annual message, I stated that the basis of arbitration proposed by her majesty's government for the adjustment of the long-pending controversy as to the seal fisheries, was not acceptable. I am glad now to be able to announce that terms satisfactory to both countries have been agreed upon, and that an agreement as to the arbitrators is all that is necessary to the completion of the convention. In view of the advanced position which this government has taken upon the subject of international arbitration, the renewed expression of our adherence to this method for the settlement of disputes such as have arisen in the Bering Sea will, I doubt not, meet with the concurrence of Congress.

[He recommends marking the Canadian boundary wherever required, and refers to the unsettled boundary between British Guiana and Venezuela, without recommendation.]

The American Hog.

The law of the last Congress providing a system of inspection for our meats intended for export, and clothing the President with power to exclude foreign products from our market in case the country sending them should perpetuate unjust discrimination against any product of the United States, placed this government in a position to effectively urge the removal of such discriminations against our meats. It is gratifying to be able to state that Germany, Denmark, Italy, Austria and France, in the order named, have opened their ports to inspected American pork products.

The State department, our ministers abroad, and the secretary of Agriculture have co-operated with unflagging and intelligent zeal for the accomplishment of this great result. The outlines of an agreement have been reached with Germany, looking to equitable trade concessions in consideration of the continued free importation of her sugars, but the time has not yet arrived when the correspondence can be submitted to Congress.

[The President refers to the unsettled state of Brazil, and discusses the New Orleans mob, of which he says:]

The suggestions growing out of this unhappy incident are worthy the attention of Congress. It would, I believe, be entirely competent for Congress to make offenses against the treaty rights of foreigners domiciled in the United States cognizable in the federal courts. This has not, however, been done; and the federal officers and courts have no power in such cases to intervene, either for the protection of a foreign citizen or for the punishment of his slayers.

[Chilean affairs are discussed at length, including the Valparaiso mob, of which the President says, referring to our demand for apology and reparation for the violence done by the mob:]

Chile Must Come Down.

It is to be regretted that the reply of the secretary for foreign affairs of the Provisional government was couched in an offensive form. To this no response has been made. This government is now awaiting the result of an investigation which has been conducted by the Criminal court at Valparaiso. It is reported unofficially that the investigation is about concluded, and it is expected that the result will soon be communicated to this government, together with some adequate and satisfactory response to the note by which the attention of Chile was first called to the incident. If these just expectations should be disappointed and further needless delay intervene I will, by a special message, bring this matter again to the attention of Congress for such action as may be necessary. The entire correspondence with the government of Chile will at an early day be submitted to Congress.

[The President then discusses our relations with China, in which he recommends that Chinese workmen be employed in preparing the Chinese exhibit at the World's Fair, be admitted to the country for that purpose.]

The Intercontinental Railway.

Surveys for the connecting links of the projected intercontinental railway are in progress, not only in Mexico but at various points along the country mapped out. Three surveying parties are now in the field, under the direction of the commission. Nearly 1,000 miles of the proposed road have been surveyed, including the most difficult part, that through Ecuador and the southern part of Colombia. The reports of the engineers are very satisfactory, and show that no insurmountable obstacles have been met with.

Hawaii—The Pacific Cable.

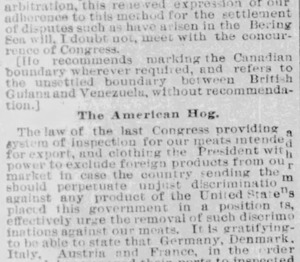
Surveys for the much-needed sub-marine cable from our Pacific coast to Honolulu are in progress, and this enterprise should have the suitable promotion of the two governments. I strongly recommend that provision be made for improving the harbor of Pearl river, and equipping it as a naval station.

The Jews in Russia.

This government has found occasion to express, in a friendly spirit, but with much earnestness, to the government of the Czar, its serious concern because of the harsh measures now being enforced against the Hebrews in Russia. By the revival of anti-Semitic laws, long in abeyance, great numbers of those unfortunate people have been constrained to abandon their homes and leave the empire by reason of the impossibility of finding subsistence within the pale to which it is sought to confine them.

The banishment, whether by direct decree

SYRUP of FIGS



ONE ENJOYS

Both the method and results when Syrup of Figs is taken; it is pleasant and refreshing to the taste, and acts gently yet promptly on the Kidneys, Liver and Bowels, cleanses the system effectually, dispels colds, headaches and fevers and cures habitual constipation. Syrup of Figs is the only remedy of its kind ever produced, pleasing to the taste and acceptable to the stomach, prompt in its action and truly beneficial in its effects, prepared only from the most healthy and agreeable substances, its many excellent qualities commend it to all and have made it the most popular remedy known.

Syrup of Figs is for sale in 50c and $1 bottles by all leading druggists. Any reliable druggist who may not have it on hand will procure it promptly for any one who wishes to try it. Do not accept any substitute.

CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
LOUISVILLE, KY. NEW YORK, N.Y.

Endorsement by men and women of the character and standing of those who recommend ALLCOCK'S POROUS PLASTERS is unquestionable proof of merit.

Mrs. Henry Ward Beecher writes:

"40 ORANGE STREET,
BROOKLYN, N. Y., February 11, 1890.

"I have used ALLCOCK'S POROUS PLASTERS for some years for myself and family, and, as far as able, for the many sufferers who come to us for assistance, and have found them a genuine relief for most of the aches and pains which flesh is heir to. I have used ALLCOCK'S POROUS PLASTERS for all kinds of lameness and acute pain, and by frequent experiments, find that they can control many cases not noticed in your circulars.

"The above is the only testimonial I have ever given in favor of any plaster, and if my name has been used to recommend any other it is without my authority or sanction."

The Rev. Mark Guy Pearse writes:

"BEDFORD PLACE, RUSSELL SQUARE,
LONDON, December 10, 1888.

"I think it only right that I should tell you of how much use I find ALLCOCK'S POROUS PLASTERS in my family and amongst those to whom I have recommended them. I find them a very breastplate against colds and coughs."

Russell Sage, the well-known financier, writes:

"506 FIFTH AVENUE,
NEW YORK CITY, December 20, 1890.

"For the last twenty years I have been using ALLCOCK'S POROUS PLASTERS. They have repeatedly cured me of rheumatic pains and pains in my side and back. Whenever I have a cold, one on my chest and one on my back speedily relieve me.

"My family are never without them."

Henry A. Mott, Jr., Ph.D., F.C.S., late Government chemist, certifies:

"My investigation of ALLCOCK'S POROUS PLASTERS shows it to contain valuable and essential ingredients not found in any other plaster, and I find it superior to and more efficient than any other plaster."

Marion Harland, on page 103 of her popular work, "Common Sense for Maid, Wife, and Mother," says:

"For the aching back ALLCOCK'S POROUS PLASTER is an excellent comforter, combining the sensation of the sustained pressure of a strong, warm hand with certain tonic qualities developed in the wearing. It should be kept over the seat of the uneasiness for several days—in obstinate cases, for perhaps a fortnight."

W. J. Arkell, publisher of *Judge* and *Frank Leslies' Illustrated Newspaper*, writes:

"JUDGE BUILDING,
Cor. FIFTH AVE. and SIXTEENTH STREET,
NEW YORK, January 14, 1891.

"About three weeks since, while suffering from a severe cold which had settled on my chest, I applied an ALLCOCK'S POROUS PLASTER, and in a short time obtained relief.

"In my opinion, these plasters should be in every household, for use in case of coughs, colds, sprains, bruises or pains of any kind. I know that in my case the results have been entirely satisfactory and beneficial."

or by not less certain indirect methods, of so large a number of men and women, is not a local question. A decree to leave one country is, in the nature of things, an order to enter another—some other. This consideration, as well as the suggestions of humanity, furnishes ample ground for the remonstrances which we have presented to Russia; while our historic friendship for that government cannot fail to give the assurance that our representations are those of a sincere well-wisher.

The Nicaragua Canal.

The annual report of the Maritime Canal company, of Nicaragua, shows that much costly and necessary preparatory work has been done during the year in the construction of shops, railroad tracks, and harbor piers and breakwaters, and that the work of canal construction has made some progress.

I deem it to be a matter of the highest concern for the United States that this canal, connecting the waters of the Atlantic and Pacific oceans and giving to us a short water communication between our ports upon those two great seas, should be speedily constructed and, for the benefit of the world, at the smallest practicable limit of cost. The gain in freights to the people, and the direct saving to the government of the United States in the use of its naval vessels, would pay the entire cost of the work within a few years. The report of the secretary of the Navy shows the saving in our naval expenditures which would result.

If this work is to be promoted by the usual financial methods, and without the aid of this government, the expenditures, in its interest-bearing securities and stocks, will probably be twice the actual cost. This will be necessarily added to the debt, become a heavy and altogether needless burden upon our commerce and that of the world. Every dollar of the bonds and stock of the company should represent a dollar expended in the most economical manner, and the construction of the work. This is only possible by giving to the bonds the guarantee of the United States government. Such a guarantee would secure the ready sale at par of a 4 per cent bond, from time to time, as the money was needed.

I do not doubt that, built upon these business methods, the canal would, when fully inaugurated, even with the added charge of operating expenses. But if its bonds are to be marketed at heavy discounts, and every bond sold is to be accompanied by a gift of stock, as has come to be expected by investors in such enterprises, the traffic will be seriously burdened to pay interest and dividends. I am quite willing to recommend government promotion in the prosecution of a work which, if no other means offered for its security, is of such transcendent interest that the government should, in my opinion, secure it by direct appropriations from its treasury.

A guarantee of the bonds of the canal company to the amount necessary to the completion of the canal could, I think, be so given as not to involve any serious risk of ultimate loss.

TREASURY AND THE TARIFF.

The Effect of the New Tariff Law on Our Commerce and Revenues.

The general interest in the operations of the Treasury department has been much augmented during the last year by reason of the conflicting predictions which accompanied and followed the tariff and other legislation of the last Congress affecting the revenues, as to the results of this legislation upon the Treasury and upon the country. On the one hand it was contended that imports would so fall off as to leave the Treasury bankrupt, and that the prices of articles entering into the living of the people would be so enhanced as to disastrously affect their comfort and happiness; while, on the other, it was argued that the loss to the revenue was largely the result of placing sugar on the free list, would be a direct gain to the people; that the prices of the necessaries of life, including those most highly protected, would not be enhanced, and that there would have a larger market, and the products of the farm advanced prices; while the Treasury surplus and receipts would be adequate to meet the appropriations, including the large exceptional expenditures for the refunding of the 6 per cent bonds of the United States at the direct tax, and the redemption of the 4½ per cent bonds.

It is not my purpose to enter at any length into a discussion of the effects of the legislation to which I have referred. I will but briefly examination of the statistics of the Treasury, and a general glance at the state of business throughout the country, will, I think, satisfy any impartial inquirer that its results have disappointed the predictions of its opponents, and in a large measure realized the hopeful predictions of its friends. Rarely, if ever before, in the history of the country has there been a time when the proceeds of one day's labor or the product of one farmed acre would purchase so large an amount of those things that enter into the living of the masses of the people. I believe that a full test will develop the fact that the tariff of last Congress is very favorable in its average effect upon the prices of articles entering into common use.

During the twelve months from October 1, 1890, to September 30, 1891, the total value of our foreign commerce (imports and exports combined) was $1,747,806,406, which was the largest of any year in the history of the United States. The largest in any previous year was in 1890, when our commerce amounted to $1,647,139,093, and the last year exceeds this enormous aggregate by over one hundred millions.

It is interesting, and to some will be surprising, to find that during the year ending September 30, 1891, our imports of merchandise amounted to $824,715,270, which was an increase of more than $11,000,000 over the value of the imports of the corresponding months of the preceding year, when the imports of merchandise were unusually large, in anticipation of the tariff legislation then pending.

The average annual value of the imports of merchandise for the ten years from 1881 to 1890, inclusive, was $692,180,522, and during the year ending September 30, 1891, this annual average was exceeded by $132,528,869.

The value of free imports during the five months ending September 30, 1891, was $18,082,787 more than the value of free imports during the corresponding twelve months of the preceding year, and there was during the same period a decrease of $6,993,538 in the value of imports of dutiable merchandise. The percentage of merchandise admitted free of duty during the year to which I have referred, the first under the new tariff, was 48.18, while during the preceding twelve months, under the old tariff, the percentage was 34.27, an increase of 13.91 per cent. If we take the six months ending Sept. 30 last, which cover the time during which sugar has been admitted free of duty, the per cent of value of merchandise imported free of duty is found to be 55.37, which is a larger percentage of free imports than during any prior fiscal year in the history of the government.

To turn to exports of merchandise, the statistics are full of gratification. The value of such exports of merchandise for the twelve months ending September 30, 1891, was $923,861,176, while the corresponding previous twelve months it was $830,1[illegible],113,an increase of $92,9[illegible],021, which is nearly three times the average annual increase of exports of merchandise during any year in the history of the government. The increase in the value of exports of agricultural products during the year referred to over the corresponding twelve months of the prior year was $45,846,197, while the increase in the value of exports of manufactured products was $10,868,240.

There is certainly nothing in the condition of trade, foreign or domestic, there is certainly nothing in the condition of our people any cause, to suggest that the existing tariff and revenue legislation bears oppressively upon the people or retards the commercial development of the nation. It may be urged that our condition would be better if our tariff legislation were upon a free trade basis; but it cannot be denied that all the conditions of prosperity and of general contentment are present in a larger degree than ever before in our history, and that, too, just when it was prophesied they would be in the worst state. Agitation for radical changes in tariff and financial legislation can not, then, but have serious impede, business of the prosperity of which some degree of stability in legislation is essential.

I think there are conclusive evidences that the new tariff has created several great industries which will, within a few years, give employment to several hundred thousand American workingmen and women. In view of the somewhat overcrowded condition of the labor market of the United States, every patriotic citizen should rejoice at such a result.

Our Fiscal Condition.

The report of the secretary of the Treasury shows that the total receipts of the government, from all sources, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1891, were $458,644,2[illegible]3.08, while the expenditures for the same period were $421,304,470.46, leaving a surplus of $37,289,782.57.

The receipts of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1892, actual and estimated, are $425,000,000, and the expenditures $409,000,000. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1893, the estimated receipts are $455,330,350, and the expenditures $441,300,093.

The Silver Question.

Under the law of July 14, 1890, the secretary of the Treasury has purchased, since August 13, during the fiscal year, 43,367,113 ounces of silver bullion at an average cost of $1.045 per ounce. The highest price paid during the year was $1.2024, and the lowest $0.9936. In exchange for this silver bullion have been issued $55,577,498 of the Treasury notes authorized by the act. The lowest price of silver reached during the fiscal year was $0.9936, on April 22, 1891; but on November 1, the market price was only $0.946, which would give to the silver dollar a bullion value of 74¼ cents.

Before the influence of the prospective silver legislation was felt in the market, silver was worth in New York about $0.855 per ounce. The ablest advocates of free coinage in the last Congress were most confident in their prediction that the purchases by the government required by the law would at once bring the price of silver to $1.29.9 per ounce, which would make the bullion value of a dollar 100 cents, and hold it there. The prophecies of the anti-silver men of disasters resulting from the coinage of $2,000,000 per month were not verified by the event. The friends of free silver are not agreed, I think, as to the causes that brought their hopeful predictions to naught. Some facts are known. The export of silver from London to India during the nine months of this calendar year fell off over 50 per cent., or $17,202,750, compared with the same months of the preceding year.

The exports of domestic silver bullion from this country, which had averaged for the last ten years over $17,000,000, fell in the last fiscal year to $13,797,391; while, for the first time in recent years, the imports of silver in to this country exceeded the exports by the sum of $2,745,365. In the previous year the net exports of silver from the United States amounted to $8,545,455. The production of the United States increased from 50,000,000 ounces in 1889 to 54,500,000 in 1890. The government is now buying and putting aside annually 54,000,000 ounces, which, allowing for 7,140,000 ounces of new bullion used in the arts, is 6,649,000 more than our domestic product received for coinage.

I hope the depression in the price of silver is temporary and that a further trial of this legislation will more favorably affect it. That the increased supply of money thus supplied for the use of the people was needed and that beneficial results upon trade and prices have followed this legislation I think must be very clear to every one; nor should it be forgotten that every dollar of these notes issued a full dollar's worth of silver bullion is at the time deposited in the Treasury as a security for its redemption.

Upon this subject, as upon the tariff, my recommendation is that the existing laws may be given a full trial, and that our business interests be spared the distressing influences which threats of radical changes always impart. Under existing legislation, it is in the power of the Treasury department to maintain that essential condition of national finance as well as of commercial prosperity—the parity in use of the coin dollars and their paper representatives. The assurance that these powers would be freely and unhesitatingly used, has done much to produce and sustain the present favorable business conditions.

Against Free Coinage.

I am still of the opinion that the free coinage of silver under existing conditions would disastrously affect our business interests at home and abroad. We could not hope to maintain an equality in the purchasing power of the gold and silver dollar in our own markets and in foreign trade the stamp given no added value to the bullion contained in coins. The producers of the country, its farmers and laborers, have the highest interest that every dollary, paper or coin, issued by the government, shall be as good as any other.

If there is one less valuable than another its sure and constant errand will be to pay them for their toil and products. The money that we would protect himself by stipulating for payment in gold, but the laborer has never been able to do that. To place business upon a silver basis would result in sudden and severe contraction of the currency by the withdrawal of gold and gold notes, and such an unsettling of all values as would produce a commercial panic. I can not believe that a people so strong and prosperous as ours would entertain such a policy.

The producers of silver are entitled to just consideration, but they should not forget that the government is now buying and putting out of the market, at a high price, the entire product of our silver mines. This is more than they themselves thought of asking two years ago. I believe it is the earnest desire of a great majority of the people, and it is right to say, that coin use shall be made of silver just as soon as the co-operation of other nations can be secured and a ratio fixed that will give the circulation equally to gold and silver. The business of the world requires the use of both metals; but I do not see any prospect of gain, but much of loss, by giving up the present system, in which a full use is made of gold and a large use of silver, for one in which silver alone will circulate.

Such an event would be at once fatal to the further progress of the silver movement. Bi-metallism is the desired end, and the friends of silver will best promote it not to overrun that goal and bring in silver monometallism, with its necessary attendants, the loss of our gold to Europe and the relief of the pressure there for a larger currency.

I have every reason to rely upon the use of official and unofficial agencies to keep a close observation of the state of public sentiment in Europe upon this question, and have not found it to be such as to justify me in proposing an international conference. There is, however, I am sure, a growing sentiment in Europe in favor of a larger use of silver, and I know of no more effectual way of promoting this sentiment than by accumulating gold here. A scarcity of gold in the European reserves will be the most persuasive argument for the use of silver.

The Surplus.

The surplus on March 1, 1889, was $183,827,190.29. The policy of applying this surplus to the redemption of the interest-bearing securities of the United States was thought to be preferable to that still deposited in the banks in selected national banks. There have been redeemed since the date last mentioned, of interest-bearing securities, $230,059,850, resulting in a reduction of the annual interest charge of $11,684,075. The money which had been deposited in banks without interest has been gradually withdrawn and used in the redemption of bonds.

Effect on Circulation.

The result of this policy, of the silver legislation, and of the refunding of the 6 per cent bonds, has been a large increase of the money in circulation. At the date last named the circulation was $1,404,205,896, or $23.03 per capita; while on the first day of December, 1891, it had increased to $1,577,-[illegible]9,671, or $24.58 per capita. The offer of the secretary of the Treasury to the holders of the 4½ per cent bonds to extend the time of redemption, at the option of the government, at an interest of 2 per cent, was accepted by the holders of about one-half the amount, and the unextended bonds are being redeemed on presentation.

THE WAR DEPARTMENT.

The Progress in Army Affairs—Various Recommendations Made to Congress.

The report of the secretary of War exhibits the results of an intelligent, progressive, and business-like administration of a department which has been too much regarded as one of mere routine. The separation of Secretary Proctor from the department by reason of his appointment as a Senator from the state of Vermont is a source of great regret to me and to his colleagues in the Cabinet, as I am sure it will be to all those who had business with the department while under his charge.

Harbor Defense.

The work of securing sites for shore batteries for harbor defense and the manufacture of mortars and guns of high power to to equip them, have made good progress during the year. The preliminary work of the tests and plans, which so long delayed a start, is now out of the way. Some guns have been completed, and with an enlarged ship and a more complete equipment at Watervliet, the army will soon be abreast of the navy in gun construction.

I concur in the recommendations of the Secretary that a three-battalion organization be adopted for the infantry. The adoption of a smokeless powder and of a modern rifle, equal in range, precision and rapidity of fire to the best now in use, will, I hope, not be longer delayed.

Indians in the Army.

The project of enlisting Indians and organizing them into separate companies upon the same basis of other soldiers, was in e the subject of very careful study by the Secretary, and received my approval. Seven companies have been completely organized, and seven more are in process of organization. The results of six months' training have more than realized the highest anticipations.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

Some Recommendations as to the Attorney-General's Department.

I concur in the recommendation of the Attorney-General that the right in felony cases to a review by the Supreme court be limited. It would seem that personal liberty would have a safe guarantee if the right of review in cases involving only fine and imprisonment were limited to the Circuit court of Appeals, unless a constitutional question should in some way be involved.

The Land Claims Court.

The judges of the court of Private Land Claims provided for by the act of March 3, 1891, have been appointed and the court organized. It is now possible to give early relief to communities long repressed in their development by unsettled land titles, and to establish the possession and right of settlers whose lands have been rendered valueless by adverse and unfounded claims.

Chinese Exclusion.

The enforcement by the Treasury department of the law prohibiting the coming of Chinese to the United States has been effective to such as seek to land from vessels entering our ports. The result has been to divert the travel to vessels entering the ports of British Columbia, which once passage into the United States at obscure points along the Dominion boundary is easy. A very considerable number of Chinese laborers have, during the past year, entered the United States from Canada and Mexico.

The officers of the Treasury department and of the department of Justice have used every means at their command to prevent this immigration, but the impossibility of guarding our extended frontier is apparent.

The Dominion government collects a head tax of $50 from every Chinaman entering into Canada, and thus derives a considerable revenue from those who only use its ports to reach a position of advantage to evade our exclusion laws. There seems to be satisfactory evidence that the business of passing Chinamen through Canada to the United States is organized and quite active. The department of Justice has construed the law to require the return of any Chinaman found to be unlawfully in this country to China as the country from which he came, notwithstanding the fact that he came by way of Canada; but several of the District courts have, in cases brought before them, overruled this view of the law, and decided that such persons must be returned to Canada.

This construction robs the law of all effectiveness, even if the decrees could be executed, for the Chinaman ordered the next day re-cross our border. But the only appropriation made is for sending them back to China, and the Canadian officials refuse to allow them to re-enter Canada without the payment of the $50 head tax. I recommend such legislation as will remedy these defects in the law.

OUR GREAT POSTAL SYSTEM.

Improvements and Extensions During the Year—Recommendations.

[The President refers to the improvement in postal facilities, the establishment of seventy-two additional money order offices on the Postmaster General's recommendation that free delivery be extended to all cities of 5,000 inhabitants and over.]

Rural Carrier Distribution.

It is not just that the farmer, who receives his mail at a neighboring town, should not only be compelled to go to the postoffice for it, but to pay a considerable rent for a box in which to place it or to wait his turn at a general delivery window, while the city resident has his mail brought to his door.

Ocean Mails Under Our Flag.

In pursuance of the ocean mail-law of March 3, 1891, and after a most careful study of the whole subject and frequent conference with ship-owners, boards of trade and others, advertisements were issued by the Postmaster General for 53 lines of ocean-mail service: Ten to Great Britain and the continent, 27 to South America, 3 to China and Japan, 4 to Australia and the Pacific islands, 7 to the West Indies, and 2 to Mexico. It was not, of course, expected that bids for all these lines would be received or that service upon them all would be contracted for. It was intended, in furtherance of the act, to secure as many new lines as possible, while including in the list most or all of the foreign lines now unoccupied by American ships.

I do not think there is any reason for discouragement or for any turning back from the policy of this legislation. Indeed a good beginning has been made, and, as the subject is further considered and understood by capitalists and shipping people, new lines will be ready to meet future proposals, and we may date from the passage of this law the revival of the American shipping interests and the recovery of a fair share of the carrying trade of the world.

OUR NEW AND GROWING NAVY.

The President Congratulates the Country Upon It.

The report of the secretary of the Navy shows a gratifying increase of new naval vessels in commission. The Newark, Concord, Bennington and Miantonomoh have been added during the year, with an aggregate of something more than 11,000 tons. Twenty-four war ships of all classes are now under construction in the navy yards and private shops, but while the work upon them is going forward satisfactorily, the completion of the more important vessels will yet require about a year's time. Some of the vessels now under construction, it is believed, will be triumphs of naval engineering.

The secretary calls attention to the work of building a modern navy was only initiated in the year 1883, that our naval constructors and ship builders were practically without experience in the construction of large iron or steel ships, that our engineers were not familiar with great marine engines, and that the manufacture of steel forgings for guns and plates was almost wholly a foreign industry, the progress that has been made is deemed highly satisfactory, but furnishes the assurance that our country will, before long, attain in the construction of such vessels, with their engines and armaments, the same prominence which it attained when he best instrument of ocean commerce was the clipper ship, and the most impressive exhibit of naval power was the old wooden three-decker man-of-war.

THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT.

The Coming Solution of the Indian Question—Some Plans Proposed.

The work in the bureau of Indian Affairs was perhaps never so large as now by reason of the numerous negotiations which have been pending with the tribes for a reduction of the reservations, with the incident labor of making allotments, and now more carefully conducted.

The provision of adequate school facilities for Indian children and the locating of adult Indians upon farms, involve the solution of the "Indian question."

Everything else—rations, annuities and tribal negotiations with the agents, inspectors and commissioners who distribute and conduct them—must pass away when the Indian has become a citizen, secure in the individual ownership of a farm, from which he derives his subsistence by his own labor, protected by and subordinate to the laws which govern the white man, and provided by the general government, or by the local communities in which he lives, for the means of educating his children. When an Indian becomes a citizen in the organized state or territory his relation to the general government ceases, in great measure, to be that of a ward, but the general government ought not at once to put upon the state or territory the burden of the education of his children.

It has been my thought that the government schools and school buildings upon the reservations would be absorbed by the school systems of the states and territories, but, as it has been found necessary to protect the Indian against compulsory alienation of his land by exempting him from taxation for a period of 25 years, it would seem to be right that the general government, certainly where there are tribal funds in its possession, should pay to the school fund of the state what would be equivalent to the local school tax upon the property of the Indian.

Lands Opened to Settlers.

The good work of reducing the larger Indian reservations by allotments in severalty to the Indians, and the cession of the remaining lands to the United States for disposition under the homestead law, has been prosecuted during the year with energy and success. In September last I was enabled to open to settlement in the territory of Oklahoma 900,000 acres of land, all of which was taken up by settlers in a single day. The rush for these lands was accompanied by a great deal of excitement, but was, happily, free from incidents of violence.

It was a source of great regret that I was not able to open at the same time the surplus lands of the Cheyenne and Arapahoe reservations, amounting to about 3,000,000 acres, by reason of the insufficiency of the appropriation for making the allotments. Deserving settlers are impatiently waiting to occupy these lands, and I urgently recommend that a special deficiency appropriation be promptly made of the small amount needed, so that the allotments may be completed and the surplus lands opened in time to permit the settlers to get upon their homesteads in the early spring.

During the past summer the Cherokee Commissioners have completed arrangements with the Wichita, Kickapoo, and Tonkawa tribes, whereby, if the agreements are ratified by Congress, over 800,000 additional acres will be opened to settlement in Oklahoma.

The negotiation for the release by the Cherokees of their claim to the Cherokee Strip, has made no substantial progress, for the reason, as they have been unofficially advised, but it is still hoped that the cession of this large and valuable tract may be secured.

Private Land Claims Court.

Your attention is called to the difficulty presented by the secretary of the Interior as to the administration of the law of March 3, 1891, establishing a court of private land claims. The small holdings intended to be protected, by the law are estimated to be more than 15,000 in number. The claimants are a most deserving class, and their titles are supported by the strongest equities. The difficulty grows out of the fact that the lands have largely been surveyed according to our methods, while the holdings, many of which have been in the same family for generations, are laid out in narrow strips a few rods wide upon a stream and running back to the hills for pasturage and timber. Provision should be made for numbering these tracts as lots, and for patenting them by such numbers and without reference to section lines.

Pensions to Veterans.

The administration of the pension bureau has been characterized during the year by great diligence. The total number of pensioners upon the rolls on the 30th day of June, 1891, was 676,160. There were allowed during the fiscal year ending at that time 250,565 cases. Of this number 102,387 were allowed under the law of June 2, 1890. The issuing of certificates has been progressing at the rate of about 18,000 per month, about 75 per cent of these being cases under the new law. The commissioner expresses the opinion that he will be able to carefully adjudicate and allow the 350,000 claims during the present fiscal year. The appropriation for the payment of pensions for the fiscal year 1890-91, was $127,885,720.89, and the amount expended $118,530,69[illegible]5, leaving an unexpended surplus of $9,155,[illegible]54.

The commissioner is quite confident that there will be no call this year for a deficiency appropriation, notwithstanding the rapidity with which the work is being should not only be compelled to pay postage for it, but to pay a considerable rent for a box in which to place it or to wait his turn at a general delivery window, while the city resident has his mail brought to his door.

These payments, under the general law, have been for many years very large, as the pensions, when allowed, dated from the time of filing the claim, and most of the claims had been long delayed. The first payments under the law of June, 1890, are relatively small, and, as the per cent of these claims increases and that of the old claims diminishes, the annual aggregate of first payments is largely reduced.

The commissioner, under date of November 13, furnishes me with the statement that during the last four months 113,[illegible]75 certificates were issued, 27,[illegible]00 under the general law and 85,282 under the act of June 27, 1890. The average first payment during these four months was $131.85, while the average first payment on certificates issued during the year ending June 30, was $230.33, being a reduction in the average first payments during these four months of $[illegible].48.

The estimate for pension expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1893, is $144,-[illegible]954,000, which, after a careful examination of the subject, the commissioner is of the opinion will be sufficient. While these disbursements to the disabled soldiers of the great civil war are large, they do not realize the exaggerated estimates of those who oppose this beneficent legislation. The secretary of the Interior shows with great fullness the care that is taken to exclude fraudulent claims, and also the gratifying fact that the persons to whom these pensions are going are men who rendered, not slight, but substantial, war service.

The Pacific Railway Debt.

The report of the commissioner of Railroads shows that the total debt of the subsidized railroads to the United States was, on December 31, 1890, $[illegible]2,512,[illegible]13.06. A large part of this debt is now fast approaching maturity, with no adequate provision for its payment. Some policy for dealing with this debt, with a view to its ultimate collection, should be at once adopted.

[The President commends the progress made on the census, and asks that Congress appropriate the money needed to print the reports. Regarding the Western territories, he thinks the United States should take up the work of irrigation; and recommends Alaska should be given a simple form of government for her settlements.]

The "Twin Relic."

The legislation of Congress for the repression of polygamy has, after years of resistance on the part of the Mormons, at last brought them to the conclusion that resistance is unprofitable and unavailing. The power of Congress over this subject should not be surrendered until we have satisfactory evidence that the people of the state to be created would exercise the exclusive power of the state over this subject in the same way. The question is now whether these people now obey the laws of Congress against polygamy, but rather would they make, enforce, and maintain such laws themselves, if they were left to regulate the subject? We can not afford to experiment with this subject; for when a state is once constituted, the act is final, and any mistake irretrievable. To compel by an enabling act could, in my opinion, be binding or effective.

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

Its Usefulness Shown—The Work It Is Doing for Farmers.

If the establishment of the department of Agriculture was regarded by any one as a mere concession to the unenlightened demand of a worthy class of people, that impression has been most effectually removed by the great results already attained, its home influence has been very great in disseminating horticultural and horticultural information; in stimulating and directing a further diversification of crops; in detecting and eradicating diseases of domestic animals; and, more than all, in the correspondence and intercourse which it has established and maintains with the farmers and stock raisers of the whole country. Every request for information has had prompt attention and every suggestion merited consideration. The scientific corps of the department is of a high order and is pushing its investigations with method and enthusiasm.

[The President commends the work of the Civil Service commission, and urges, for the safety of railroad employes, the law requiring railroads to equip a certain proportion of its freight cars with automatic couplers and air brakes each year.]

Evils of Gerrymanders.

The method of appointment by the states of electors of President and Vice President, has recently afforded a departure by the state of Michigan from the method which had become uniform in all the states. Prior to 1832, various methods had been used by the different states and even by the same state. In some the choice was made by the Legislature; in others, electors were chosen by districts but more generally by the voters of the whole state upon a general ticket.

The steady movement towards the adoption of the last named method had an early beginning, and went steadily forward among the states, until in 1832 there remained but a single state, South Carolina, that had not adopted it. That state, until the civil war, continued to choose its electors by a vote of the legislature, but after the war changed its method and conformed to the practice of the other states. For nearly 60 years all the states save one have appointed their electors by a popular vote on a general ticket, and for nearly 30 years this method was universal.

After a full test of other methods, without important division or dissent in any state, and without any purpose of party advantage, as we must believe, but solely upon that considerations above set out, uniformity was desirable, and that a general election in territorial divisions, not subject to change, was most consistent with the popular character of our institutions, been adopted—the method of the voters, and perfectly removed the choice of President from the baneful influence of the "gerrymander," the election of all the states was brought into harmony.

Such a unanimous concurrence should now be broken is, I think, an unfortunate and even a threatening episode, and one that may well suggest whether the states that have given the approval to the old and prevailing method ought not to secure, by a constitutional amendment, a practice which has had the approval of all. The recent Michigan legislation provides for assigning what are popularly known as Congressional electors for President by Congressional districts, and the two Senatorial electors by districts created for that purpose. This legislation was, of course, accompanied by a new Congressional apportionment, and the two statutes bringing the electoral vote of the state under the influence of the "gerrymander."

These methods have already found effective application to the choice of Senators and Representatives in Congress, and now an evil start has been made in the direction of applying them to the choice by the states of electors of President and Vice-President. If this is accomplished, we shall then have the three great departments of the government in the grasp of the "gerrymander"—the legislative and executive directly, and the judiciary indirectly, through the power of appointment.

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WASHINGTON.

HOUSE COMMITTEES,

Mr. Mills May, and Then Again He May Not, be Made Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—(Special.)—Of course there is the customary to-do now over the House committees. Every Congress brings the same amount of monkey business about the formation of House committees and the distribution by the speaker of what some people imagine to be great favors in the way of committee chairmanships. Customarily these things are doled out to the friends of the winner in the speakership race. If Mr. Crisp should follow this custom it would not be surprising, for certainly he has reason to be grateful to his band of devoted followers.

Some Forecasts.

It is probable that Mr. Outhwaite, or Mr. O'Farrall, of Virginia, will be the head of the elections committee; Mr. Mills, or Mr. McMillin, of ways and means; Mr. Holman, appropriations; Mr. Oats, the judiciary committee; Mr. Bland, coinage, weights and measures; Mr. Blanchard, rivers and harbors; Mr. Hatch, agriculture; McCreary, of Kentucky, or Hooker, of Mississippi, foreign affairs; Joe Wheeler, of Alabama, military affairs; Herbert, of Alabama, naval affairs; Peel of Arkansas, Indian affairs; Springer, of Illinois, territories, or possibly something better; Catchings, of Mississippi, labor committee.

The Alliance Not in It.

The opening day of the session emphasized the complete downfall of the Farmers' Alliance. Instead of between 40 and 50 members in the House marching under Alliance colors, there were but nine. On that same fatal day the call for an anti-sub-treasury convention at Memphis was withdrawn, and now President Polk declares war on Macune, and will insist on his removal from office and expulsion from the Alliance. Chairman McAllister says Mr. Cates's whitewash at Ocala saved the Alliance four-fifths of its membership. It is evident that the Alliance is so rapidly disintegrating as to cut no figure in the next campaign.

That Clarkson Interview.

Chairman Clarkson, of the Republican committee, makes an emphatic denial of the statement recently credited to him, in which the statement was made that Mr. Blaine would not be a candidate and that Mr. Harrison was entitled to a renomination. The denial is accepted as confirmation of the theory that the statement was made by authority and that Mr. Blaine fully intends to get out of the way and ask his friends to support Mr. Harrison. The President's friends seem to feel no uneasiness about the anti-Harrison movement reported from Indiana. They believe local pride will bring the state into line with a solid delegation in the convention.

What Defeated Mills.

There is one thing that Mr. Mills and a lot of other statesmen might as well know, and the sooner they know it the better. That is that Mr. Mills owes his defeat to his own course in the treatment of the press. If Mr. Mills in all the years he has been here had shown the slightest disposition to treat newspaper men with even common courtesy, to say nothing of going a little out of his way to be obliging, he would have been speaker of the House of Representatives to-day. By this it is not meant that he should have made extraordinary efforts to have made himself agreeable or to "cultivate" the newspaper men. On the contrary there is nobody who so quickly resents that sort of thing as the average newspaper man here. This is illustrated by the fact that Mr. Crisp, who by his extremely popular with the newspaper men, made apparently no extraordinary effort to gain his popularity, but attained it simply because he treated them courteously, as gentlemen, with a reasonable recognition of the fact that they performed a public duty which is expected and demanded of them by the reading public, and that while they sometimes make mistakes, the more frankly they are met and assisted in their inquiries, the better and more faithfully and accurately will they perform their duty to their employers and the reading public. Mr. Crisp's treatment of newspaper men was frank, manly and never effusive, while Mr. Mills was frigid, brusque and sometimes even more. They don't want statesmen to go out of their way for their benefit, but they quickly resent advances of those who suppose that their favors can be bought with appeals to the stomach or pocket, and they do want fair, frank and courteous treatment in the prosecution of their duties, for they realize that without this their work cannot be intelligent and accurate. One of the most acute Democratic politicians in Washington said after the speakership contest was ended: "If Mr. Mills had enjoyed one-half the popularity among the newspaper men that any of the other candidates did, he could have been elected speaker."

SCHEME TO TRAIN SERVANT GIRLS.

Mrs. Gen. Logan Booms a Good Idea in Washington.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—A preliminary meeting was held this week at the residence of Mrs. General Logan for the purpose of organizing a society for the education of servant girls in the various branches of domestic labor. The institution, which will embrace both white and black, has for its object the betterment of working women by giving them a free education and thorough training in all domestic work by the establishment of a school of industry, where girls and women, not younger than 15 or older than 30, may apprentice themselves for a period of not less than six months or more than one year. Cooking, washing, ironing, dressmaking, plain sewing by hand, the duties of waitress and maid will be thoroughly taught.

The Baltimore Off for San Francisco.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—The secretary of the Navy has received a cable message from Capt. Schley, commanding the United States ship Baltimore, saying that as there appeared to be no further necessity for the presence of that vessel at Valparaiso, she sailed yesterday for San Francisco for the purpose of being docked and scraped. The Yorktown is now the only American war ship at Valparaiso, but she will be joined there in about ten days by the cruiser Boston which sailed from Montevideo a few days ago. It was originally intended the Baltimore should leave Chile on the arrival of the Yorktown, but this plan was changed in order to allow members of her crew to testify before the Chilean committee investigating the recent riot on the American sailors.

Poor Peffer.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—(Special.)—Senator Peffer is finding the top of the rail fence which he is astride an uncomfortable and unprofitable seat. The Northern Democrats and Republicans do not treat him with any cordiality, and it is likely he will be left to look by himself. He sent a letter to the Democratic caucus, asking for consideration on the committee assignments, but avoided pledges as to his own course. The letter made considerable discussion on Pefferism, which must have made his ears burn and showed that the Democrats have no use for him so long as he insists on remaining on the fence. Of course he has no reason to expect anything from the Republicans and it looks as though there were six dreary years ahead for Peffer.

Secretary Blaine Will Attend.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11. — Secretary Blaine has accepted an invitation to attend the dinner of the Merchants' association at Boston, January 8. Mrs. Blaine is somewhat indisposed at present, but it is thought she will be fully restored to health long before the date mentioned. This is the condition on which Secretary Blaine placed his acceptance.

Democratic National Committee.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—At the meeting yesterday of the executive committee of the Democratic National committee, it was decided to issue a call for the full National Democratic committee to meet in Washington on January 21 next, for the purpose of selecting the time and place for holding the next Democratic national convention.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—U. S. Gov't Report, Aug. 17, 1889.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER
ABSOLUTELY PURE

CLARKSON'S DENIAL.

He Says He Hasn't Declared Himself for Either Mr. Blaine or the President.

CHICAGO, Dec. 14.—James S. Clarkson, chairman of the Republican national committee, this morning demolished the story telegraphed from Washington recently to the effect that Mr. Clarkson had declared himself for President Harrison for renomination. "It is not true," said Mr. Clarkson. "I have not declared myself for either Mr. Blaine or for the President. I have not any preference, and I do not know anything about the intention of either. I saw Mr. Blaine several days ago and he looked as well and hearty as he did when he returned from the Indian territory. I have not the least doubt but that the relations between Mr. Harrison and Mr. Blaine are cordial and as friendly as they always have been."

'Will Mr. Blaine's position be defined very soon?"

"I haven't heard anything about it."

Mr. Clarkson leaves for Minneapolis to-night to look over the ground there anent the holding of the convention.

A NICE POINT.

It is Claimed That the New York Governor Has Forfeited His Right to a Seat in the Senate.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—(Special.)—There is quite a flurry in political circles over a report that an effort will be made to reject D. B. Hill's credentials as senator when he presents them. This action is said to be based on his course in continuing to act as governor of New York after the meeting of the Senate.

Nobody claimed that his retention of the office of governer prior to the meeting of the Senate invalidated his title, but when it became his duty to represent New York state in the session of the Senate and he elected to perform duties as another officer of the state by remaining in the gubernatorial chair, it is held that he foreited his position as a Senator. It is said there are ample precedents to sustain this position. A very prominent official who holds one of the highest positions under the government expresses the opinion that Hill has clearly forfeited his senatorial position.

Anti-Sub-Treasury Convention Postponed.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—W. S. McAllister, of Mississippi, chairman of the national executive committee of the anti-sub-treasury alliance, who has been making a tour of the state where his party is strongest, found awaiting him there letters from his fellow-committeemen urging him to postpone the date for a national convention, called to meet at Memphis, Tenn., December 16, and he has accordingly issued a notice that the convention has been indefinitely postponed.

For Campaign Purposes.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—(Special.)—The Democratic leaders in the House are preparing for a series of wholesale investigations, as soon as the session fairly opens, with the hope of making political capital to effect in the coming Presidential election. A number of prominent officials are marked for Congressional attention, and every point in this policy of attack is being vigorously carried out.

Secretary Foster Much Better.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Secretary Foster has so much improved that Dr. Hamilton, who has attended him ever since he was taken sick, left Washington to-day for Chicago, to resume his official duties at that place. Dr. C. L. Magruder, of this city, who was lately called in the case, will continue to attend the secretary during his convalescence.

51ST CONGRESS — FIRST SESSION.

DEC. 9.—Senate—The President's message was read and appropriately referred.

House—The President's message was read, referred, and the House adjourned until Saturday.

DEC. 10.—Senate.—Bills introduced: To prevent food adulteration; for better enforcement of quarantine laws; for free coinage of silver; for sale of mineral lands to miners; to transfer revenue cutter service to navy department; to suspend coming of Chinese laborers; to reduce postage to one cent; providing for consular certificates of immigrants; to increase efficiency of the army; to increase certain pension rates; to establish hospital for inebriates in District of Columbia; to provide for coinage at Denver mint; to amend patent laws; providing for compulsory education of Indians; to provide for election of Senators by the people; to grant a service pension; to reduce the pension ratings to ten; to abolish pension agencies; to prohibit monopoly in transportation of cattle to foreign countries; to amend inter-state commerce act; to prevent the sales of arms to Indians; appointing three commissioners to revise the statutes relating to patents, trade and other marks; for an international code to matters contained in or affected by the convention for the protection of industrial prosperity concluded at Paris in 1883; to authorize the secretary of War to cause to be investigated and to provide for the payment of all claims for the use and occupation of church, college and school buildings for government purposes by the United States military authorities during the late war; appropriating $1,000,000 to establish a gun factory on the Pacific coast; also to continue in force the Chinese exclusion act of October, 1888, with an amendment requiring Chinese illegally in the United States to be removed to China; also appropriating $525,000 for the improvement of the lower Columbia river; to provide for the retirement of national bank notes and the free coinage of silver. Resolutions offered: Relative to the removal of remains of General Grant; to ascertain actual expenses in business of moneylending.

HOUSE—Not in session.

DEC. 11.—No session in either house.

DEC. 12.—Senate not in session. House met, but without transacting any business. Adjourned to Wednesday.

DEC. 14.—Senate—Bills introduced: Repealing all laws discriminating against the circulation of state banks; to amend the national banking law and retire their circulation; defining options in "futures," and imposing a tax thereon; to establish a permanent census office; prohibiting absolutely the coming of Chinese.

Houses—Not in session.

To Test the Anti-Trust Law.

CONCORD, N. H., Dec. 15.—A test case is to be brought against the American Bobbin Spool and Shuttle company, by ex-Congressman Moore, of Nashua, N. H., who will ask the grand jury of the United States Circuit court to grant indictments against the officers of the combination for the violation of the anti-trust law.

TICKS FROM THE TICKING TICKER.

The Indians in Montana are sullen and in a threatening mood.

E. E. Meredith, Democrat, has been elected to Congress from Virginia to succeed Gen. Lee.

La grippe in a virulent form is prevalent in Topeka, Kan. Three thousand cases are reported.

The car shortage in the West is increasing, owing to the blockades of the Eastern gateways.

Canada has refused to give American authors the right of registration in that country.

It is said that Senator M. S. Quay is a candidate for re-election to the United States Senate.

A productive vein of silver and lead ore has been discovered in Delaware county, New York.

The gross value of the late Mr. Parnell's property is sworn at $55,870, and the net value at $31,260.

Charles B. Evarts, son of Hon. W. M. Evarts, was found dead in bed at Windsor, Vt., Thursday morning.

Governor Francis, of Missouri, will call an extra session of the legislature of that state January 15, 1892, for the purpose of redistricting the state.

Kit Carson, jr., son of the famous old scout by the same name, killed his father-in-law and mother-in-law Thursday and then made good his escape.

Tuesday the House of Representatives of South Carolina passed the Childs bill to prohibit the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors in the state, and it is expected to receive 22 out of 35 votes in the Senate.

FOREIGN NEWS.

RIOT AT WATERFORD.

Michael Davitt Severely Injured in a Parnellite and McCarthyite Riot at Which Blackthorns and Shillalahs Predominate.

DUBLIN, Dec. 14.—Michael Davitt, the famous Irish leader, was seriously wounded during a riot in Waterford city yesterday. Mr. Davitt and Mr. O'Brien had gone to Waterford to support the candidature of Mr. Keane, the nominee of the McCarthyites, for the seat in parliament made vacant by the death of Richard Power. Mr. Keane's opponent is Mr. Redmond, a member of the Parnell wing of the Irish party. Mr. Davitt was strongly urged by the McCarthyites to stand for Waterford, but he declined to do so, and, in consequence of his refusal, Mr. Keane was made the nominee.

Rumors of an impending row had been existing the populace for some little while, and a force of 600 police had been drafted into the town, in the hopes that their presence would secure order. The Parnellite leaders, Messrs. Redmond, Leamy and Dalton, had been in Waterford some days. In the afternoon special trains brought hundreds of supporters of the rival candidates and the various contingents, armed with formidable blackthorn shillalahs, marched through the streets to the music of brass bands. Messrs. Davitt and others, also attended by a band of music, proceeded for the quarters of the National Commercial club, and while enroute there the disorder arose.

A mob composed of members of the Parnellite faction began one of the fiercest conflicts that has characterized prevailing hostilities. The opposing crowds fought at very close quarters and surged to and fro throughout the streets seemingly utterly regardless of the presence of the police.

Volleys of Stones

were hurled through the air, and the blackthorns moved with a vicious celerity that sent many of the howling rioters to hospitals, the police station and then home for prompt surgical attention. In the midst of the affray Mr. Davitt received a nasty cut on the forehead from which the blood flowed freely. Mr. Tanner and others were injured by stones. At last the police formed a cordon and divided the opposing mobs, and the Davitt crowd reached the club room.

Mr. O'Brien made the speech of the day. He bitterly denounced the assault upon his friends, and said the crowds who injured Davitt had struck a glorious blow for the Irish cause.

Davitt's answer for that blow was that now he was a candidate for Waterford. O'Brien, in his concluding words, accused the police of using their batons more in favor of the rioting mob than otherwise. The police, he asserted, protected the Parnellites, while the force of their blows was devoted to the McCarthyites.

Davitt to Stand Instead of Keane.

DUBLIN, Dec. 14.—Despite the injuries received by Michael Davitt at Waterford yesterday, he is still in the political field, and it has been determined by the McCarthyite leaders that Mr. Keane, the nominee of the McCarthyites, should be withdrawn from the contest and that Mr. Davitt himself should stand as the McCarthyite candidate.

A conference was held with Mr. Keane, and shortly afterwards he announced his withdrawal from the contest. He gave "press of business," as his reason for declining to further contest the seat. A letter written by William O'Brien, which is published this morning, states that Mr. Keane was only persuaded to stand in the event of Mr. Davitt refusing to do so. The newspapers supporting the McCarthyite faction are rejoicing that Mr. Davitt has finally concluded to make a fight for the seat himself. They believe that he is a very strong candidate and that the prospect for a McCarthyite victory is greatly enhanced by his action in taking the field in person against Mr. Redmond.

THE JAPAN EARTHQUAKE.

An Eye-Witness Says It Was the Most Violent That Has Occurred During the Christian Era.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 9. — Professor Horace Briggs, the well known educator of Buffalo, is in the city on his way home from Japan. He was in Yokohoma at the time of the great earthquake and immediately proceeded to Nogoya and Gifu, where the shocks were most severe. After describing the scenes which have already been published, Prof. Briggs said: "In the ruin of the postoffice at Nagoya, which was the only brick building in town, twenty postal clerks were buried. The unhappy men were assorting the morning mail when the building toppled over upon them and buried them. Not one escaped."

Prof. Briggs went to Gifu, but the railroad beds had been so badly wrecked that travel beyond was impossible. Immense crevices, from which hot mud and steam escaped, were to be seen in all directions. During his stay there, an unhappy Japanese, who had lost his wife in one of the crevices, went in search of her, and while standing on the edge of the fissure the earth crumbled beneath him and precipitated him into the unknown depths below. All the crevices along the roads have since been bridged, but danger from them is little lessened. Prof. Briggs said: "I think this earthquake will be known as one of the most violent that has occured during the Christian era."

Ravages of the Influenza.

BERLIN, Dec. 9.—An idea of the extent of the ravages of influenza in this city may be gathered from an article which appears in the *Medizinsch Wochenschrift*. This medical authority states that during the past week there have been 40,000 cases of the disease in Berlin. The death rate here from influenza is not high, but 30 of the cases reported have resulted fatally. The residents of Hamburg have become almost panic-stricken at the wide prevalence of the disease in that city. The epidemic in Hamburg is particularly virulent in its nature. The statistics there now show that during the past week the deaths have been 280 above the average. This exceedingly heavy increase in the mortality is due entirely to influenza and its attendant complications. The *Medizinsch Wochenschrift* cites as a curious feature of the disease in France, the fact that in some parts of that country the schools and barracks are exempt from the ravages of the influenza, while private houses are filled with the infection.

Common Cause With Europe.

PARIS, Dec. 10.—In an interview the secretary of the Chinese legation in this city said that the Tartar dynasty of China makes common cause with Europe in matters of thought and morals, and it was for this reason that the present ruler of China was regarded with suspicion by the Chinese of the old school. The present rising in China, the secretary said, was partly due to the ultra-conservative spirit of the old Chinese school which imagines that the government shows too much favor to foreigners, and is too well disposed toward Christians. The secretary added: "If we were a warlike people, this condition of affairs might result in the overthrow of the government, but, except among the Tartars, the profession of arms is disposed. Still, China can put in the field two million fully equipped soldiers if it should become necessary."

Famine Prices for Cereals.

MADRAS, Dec. 11. — Owing to the drouth the crops have been lost over large areas in the Madras presidency which are devoted to the cultivation of various kinds of grain. Famine prices for cereals prevail in the districts of Arcot, Chingleput and Cuddapah, and in the town of Ananitapor in the Bellery district.

CHILE HASN'T HEDGED.

President Montt Says the Authorities Never Tried to Evade the Responsibility for the Outrage.

CHICAGO, Dec. 12.—A Valparaiso, Chile, special cablegram says: President Jorge Montt has sent the Chilean ministers in the United States and Europe a reply to President Harrison's message to the Congress of the United States in relation to the assault on the sailors who landed from the cruiser Baltimore. He declares that the Chilean authorities have never attempted to evade in the slightest particular any responsibility for which the country may be justly held, but he insists that the proper and ordinary forms of Chilean procedure must be observed.

President Montt consented to be interviewed relative to President Harrison's message, which is regarded by many prominent people in Chile as being intended to prepare the American people for a hostile movement against this country. President Montt said he was fully convinced that in the end the American people would judge the Baltimore affair without bias. There was no doubt in his mind that the Congress of the United States would act with fairness in the matter, and that justice would be done by the governments of both the United States and Chile.

"The closing sentences of Mr. Harrison's message," said President Montt, show that he will await the conclusion of the investigation now being made, before taking aggressive action. So believing, I have not the slightest idea of any trouble between the two countries. We are desirous of cultivating amicable relations with all countries, and have no desire for any difficulty with the United States."

No acknowledgement has been made of the receipt of the letter sent the Chilean government November 9, asking for copies of the testimony of witnesses in the investigation into the Baltimore affair. Six days ago a reply was sent to the letter of Secretary Blaine to Minister Montt at Washington, in which the American secretary of State says that safe conducts were granted the refugees who were in the German and French legations, which privilege was denied those seeking asylum in the American legation. The reply was sent to Secretary Blaine direct, and said no such permits have been granted; that no safe conduct has been issued to any of the refugees in any of the former legations, and that "Mr. Blaine can keep himself well informed through the Chilean legation at Washington."

CHINESE INSURGENTS.

Particulars of the Salt Liken Riot in Fakien Province—Victory for the Attacking Party.

NEW YORK, Dec. 10.—The *North China Herald* of October 9, gives the particulars of the salt liken riot in Fakien province. The place or town was Telima, not Chaughna, as reported. The leader of the insurgents is named Chea, and has a force under his command on top of a hill outside the city of some 3,000 men. A large flag bears the words "Sweep away the Taching dynasty and tranquilize the people." The insurgents are in rags, a grass rope round the waist taking the place of a belt and a coarse bat serving as a helmet. The military advisers are monk. Under the pretense of opposing the liken squeezes on salt, the force was formed. Incense for success was offered in the Taisan temple before the standard was unfurled. The first expedition was directed against the salt liken office, which was stormed and burned. The liken deputy and his assistants took to their their heels on the first intimation of danger. One unfortunate, however, fell into the hands of the insurgents who nailed his hands and feet to a board and cut him up pecemeal. The victim was considered to have been a sacrifice to the flag, which, by the characters written thereon, expresses the cause of the rising.

The magistrate, Chon, had given over his seat to the new magistrate, Shao, two days previous to the trouble, but had not yet time to move out of the Yamen. Shao was staying in the examination hall. When the insurgents, flushed with success, made a complete circuit around the city they were met with stubborn resistance on the part of the deputy magistrate, Tug, who secured a volunteer force of about 1,000 strong, and repulsed every attempt to take the walls by assault. For three days the city held out, while local roughs were persistently spreading the rumor among the inhabitants that the city cannons could not be fored and that the guns of the beslegers were most deadly in effect. The people were terribly scared, and at the same time, provisions ran short.

Agitated by fear and harassed by hunger, the defenses stood nobly to their post in the desperate hope of an early rescue by Imperial troops. The insurgents seized a favorable moment to send a large force, under cover of their own fire, to storm the defense. The walls were low and were easily scaled. A bloody struggle ensued, resulting in favor of the attacking party. The leader was the first one to leap over, and, rushing straight to the magistrate's yamen he first liberated all the prisoners and then searched for the magistrate, Chon, and his family, but without success, as Chon and his family were conveyed in safety out of the city by a certain master of acts who cut a road through the encircling enemy. The deputy magistrate was last seen fighting hand to hand against overwhelming odds. Nothing is known of his fate, but his wretched family was captured and taken to the mountains. The higher authorities dispatched 1,000 soldiers to the place. The latest is that the insurgents have left the city and are encamped on the hill.

Newfoundland Fisheries Dispute.

Lord Salisbury has re-opened negotiations with M. Ribot, the French foreign minister, for a settlement of the Newfoundland fisheries dispute. It is reported that Lord Salisbury, in return for the surrender of all the French rights in Newfoundland, will cede to France the Harvey Islands and the colony of Nagos. Lord Knutsford, colonial secretary, in receiving the deputations from Liverpool and Manchester, protesting against the sacrifice of British interests in West Africa to France, intimated that the minister's opinions did not agree with those of the deputations. The pending negotiations explain his chilly reception of the protests.

Mr. Gladstone's criticism of Mr. Goshen's one-pound note scheme has killed the chances of the bill in parliament. The conservatives have no desire that the measure be promoted.

Lord Lytton's Successor.

LONDON, Dec. 11.—Lord Dufferin has been appointed British ambassador to France in place of the late Lord Lytton.

Prince Albert Victor, Duke of Clarence, the eldest son of the Prince of Wales, on Friday proposed to and was accepted by Princess Victoria Mary, the only daughter of the Duke of Teck.

The Egyptian government and the Suez canal have agreed upon conditions under which the latter is to construct and operate a steam tramway and a fresh water canal between Port Said and Ismailia, exclusively for the carriage of mails and passengers, and for use in the company's service.

HUMORS OF THE BLOOD, SKIN AND SCALP, whether itching, burning, bleeding, scaly, crusted, pimply, blotchy, or copper colored, with loss of hair, other simple, scrofulous, hereditary, or contagious, are speedily, permanently, economically and infallibly cured by the CUTICURA REMEDIES, consisting of CUTICURA, the great Skin Cure, CUTICURA SOAP, an exquisite Skin Purifier and Beautifier, and CUTICURA RESOLVENT, the new Blood and Skin Purifier and greatest of Humor Remedies, when the best physicians and all other remedies fail. CUTICURA REMEDIES are the only infallible blood and skin purifiers, and daily effect more great cures of blood and skin diseases than all other remedies combined.

Sold everywhere. Price, CUTICURA, 50c.; SOAP, 25c.; RESOLVENT, $1. Prepared by Potter Drug and Chemical Corporation, Boston, Mass.

Send for "How to Cure Blood and Skin Diseases."

Pimples, blackheads, chapped and oily skin prevented by CUTICURA SOAP.

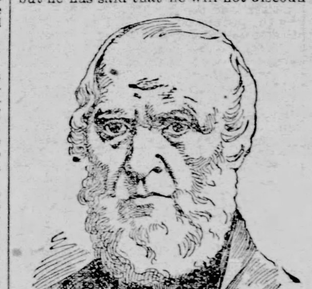
Backache, kidney pains, weakness and rheumatism relieved in one minute by the celebrated CUTICURA ANTI-PAIN PLASTER. 25c.

MAGEE'S EMULSION OF PURE COD LIVER OIL
IN COMBINATION WITH
Extract of Malt, and Compound Syrup of Hypophosphites, (Lime and Soda,)
A RELIABLE REMEDY FOR
PULMONARY DISEASES, COUGHS, COLDS, BRONCHITIS, DYSPEPSIA, SCROFULA AND GENERAL DEBILITY.
Very easy to take. Does not produce Nausea, and is easily assimilated. Thousands of Physicians are prescribing it in their regular practice and many assert that it is
THE BEST EMULSION IN THE MARKET.
Ask your Druggist for it AND TAKE NO OTHER. MAGEE EMULSION CO., Manf'rs, LAWRENCE, MASS. TORONTO, CANADA.

WILL CELEBRATE IN A QUIET WAY.

Poet Whittier's Coming Birthday will be Passed at His Cousin's.

AMESBURY, Mass., Dec. 12.—The poet Whittier has decided to pass his birthday, December 17, at the home of his cousin, Joseph Cartland, at Newburyport, where he has been staying for the past few months. In keeping with his quiet and retired nature, Mr. Whittier is averse to any special or formal celebration of the day, but he has said that he will not discountenance or interfere in any way with such plans of observation of the day as have been formed by his friends throughout the country.



JOHN G. WHITTIER.

The poet will probably read what he has written of his Columbus poem to Judge Cate's family and a few friends. He will not permit the poem to be published until finished. His friends are anxious to have the poet write a poem for the World's Fair, and they feel confident that their wishes will be complied with.

IT ALL DEPENDS.

If Blaine Isn't a Candidate Senator Cullom, of Illinois, Will be in the Field.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Rumors of a contemplated letter by Secretary Blaine announcing that he will not be a candidate for the Presidential nomination in 1892, continue to be circulated with a regularity which indicates method. A singular feature connected with these repeated statements is that they seem to originate in quarters where the intentions of the person chiefly concerned are least likely to be closely known.

Frank Hatton's Washington *Post* enters the list of interpreters of the future, and says that "as soon as Mr. Blaine announces that he is not a candidate for the Presidential nomination, Senator Cullom, of Illinois, will be put in the field. Mr. Hatton states that private advices have been received in Washington by prominent Illinois deputations, stating that a secret meeting of the Republican State Central committee of Illinois was held in Chicago a few days ago, at which it was resolved that the 44 votes in the next Republican convention should be cast for Senator Cullom if Mr. Blaine was not a candidate."

The *Post* continues as follows: "There seems to be no question of the ability of the Central committee to redeem its promise, for Mr. Cullom is not only popular in the state but he has a firm control of the political machinery. This is the first intimation of the definite launching of his prospects. In conversation with his friends the Senator has made no secret of his ambition, and seems to have carefully considered the situation. He realizes, of course, that with Blaine in the field his nomination is an impossibility, but he also believes, on the other hand, that Mr. Harrison, if nominated, can not be elected.

"The Republicans of his state evidently agree with him. It is no secret that the Illinois Republicans in this city watched with selfish pleasure the break made in the Illinois delegation during the speakership struggle. They assert that whatever likelihood of Democratic success in the state may have existed before that contest the conditions have now been materially changed. Feuds were awakened here during the memorable week that preceded the Democratic caucus, that will not immediately die, unless such a thing as human resentment has lost its place in the minds of men."

ABSOLUTELY PAINLESS.

A Witness of the Execution Says Murderer Loppy Died in the Thousandth Part of a Second.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Dec. 11.—Dr. Wheelock Ryder, the eminent eye specialist, of this city, was one of the witnesses of the Loppy execution at Sing Sing prison, last Monday, although his name did not appear in the press reports. To a reporter the doctor said, yesterday: "Yes, I was present at the execution."

"Do you regard the electrocution as successful?"

"Most decidedly I do, and it is certainly the most humane way of executing criminals, if we are going to execute them at all. There was nothing sickening, nothing terrible about the manner in which Loppy met his death, notwithstanding sensational newspaper reports to the contrary. There was no odor of burning flesh, of which so much has been said, nor frightful contortions."

"Was death instantaneous?"

"Yes," it was quicker than that. Death did not occur after the current was turned on, but the instant it was applied. Loppy did not suffer. Suffering was impossible. Death occurred in one thousandth part of a second, and pain, if such it may be termed, which does not last longer than that, can not cause suffering. Any pain which Loppy suffered I would be willing to endure all day."

"How long were the currents applied?"

"About fifty seconds."

An Ohio Man Wakes Up Minus an Aching Molar.

MECHANICSBURG, O., Dec. 12.—David Raudebaugh, a prominent citizen of this place, had a tooth which caused him considerable pain. The other night he retired as usual, with the intention of visiting a dentist the following morning and having the molar extracted. Upon awakening in the morning he was startled by finding his pillow and shirt bosom covered with blood, and an investigation disclosed the tooth lying upon the bed clothing close by. He had suffered no pain sufficient to awaken him during the night, and how the tooth ever became detached from his jaw remains a mystery, which is not likely to ever be explained. A number of Spiritualists in this community claim to be able to furnish a key to the mystery and say they had knowledge that the extracting of the tooth would occur as it did.

Additional News Will be Found on the 5th Page.

Finance and Trade.

THE FINANCIAL SITUATION.

MONEY.—Financial affairs continued improving last week in the European financial centers, especially in London, as was evidenced by the directors of the bank of England reducing its minimum rate of discount on Thursday to 3½ per from 4, at which it had stood since October 28. The situation on this side of the Atlantic remains favorable, the only factor that has been unsatisfactory for several weeks being the gradual rise in rates in foreign exchange, which closed on Saturday at 50 cents premium. This advance has for the time being stopped the flow of gold westward across the Atlantic.

The reason for this advance in the price of European exchange is not in any unfavorable outlook as to our finances, but because of the large amount of interest on American securities, railroad and others, which are held in Europe—which interest falls due, as a rule, in January. On this subject the New York *Financial Chronicle* says:

In our opinion the outside world holds a far larger amount of our securities and has a much larger amount of other investments in the United States than any estimate ever made.

Indeed, an estimate which attempts details with a hope of reaching even a most general approximation of the amount is a delusion. It is only after a close examination of past and current trade movements, added to a remembrance of the very marked change in the tendency of foreign investments which followed the resumption of specie payments and again followed the West shore settlement, and narrowed down to about two years ago—it is only after such an examination that one is in any condition to judge, and then only most vaguely, of what we have to pay Europe annually for interest.

Money was abundant in New York during the week, and the offerings were liberal. Money on call loaned at 3½ to 2 per cent, averaging 3, and closing on Saturday at 2 per cent. Time money was abundant, and loans were made (secured by Stock Exchange collateral) at 4@4½ per cent for 30 to 60 days, 5 per cent for 90 days and 5½ per cent for 4 to 6 months. Money was easy at the European financial centers. Our receipts of gold from Europe last week amounted to $540,000. At the rates of exchange now prevailing, gold can not be imported at a profit.

STOCKS.—The tone of the market was strong last week, and there was a slight advance, both in activity and prices, considering the market as a whole. The indications are favorable for an advance movement all along the line early in the new year, after the January settlements of interest and dividends have been made. The notable feature of the market last week was the increase of purchases of stocks for investments. These purchases are largely made with money which has been paid in liquidation of Western mortgages. The payment of these has assumed large proportions since the crops began to move, and the indications are that much larger amounts will be liquidated during the next six months. The large earnings of the leading rail roads, promising good dividends, make their stocks very inviting investments just now, and in consequence of the demand they are steadily, though not rapidly, rising in market value.

SILVER.—During last week the market for silver bullion was quiet and steady. The references to the silver question in the President's message did not affect the market at all, as his position on the subject has been perfectly well known to every one. The market closed in New York on Saturday at 96 cents per ounce, which is equal to 74¼ cents for the value of the pure metal in the standard dollar.

THE WEEKLY REVIEW OF TRADE.

Very Fair Activity Through the Country —Confidence in the Future.

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—R. G. Dun & Co's weekly review of trade says: As the holidays draw near all signs indicate a large volume of business at the present, with growing confidence of improvement in the future, except in parts of the south, where the unusual accumulation of cotton and its low price have a depressing influence. There is no lack of money in any part of the country, except at some southern points, and the mere fact that cotton now accumulated at a few ports and interior towns represents fully 800,000 in value paid to planters, at once explains the difficulty and suggests that it is not permanent. It is a good sign also, that collections are on the whole improving, though slow at New Orleans and some southern points, and only fair in some lines at eastern cities.

Reports from all parts of the country show a very fair activity in the distribution of merchandise.

The expected reduction in prices of carpets has come from 10c on body Brussels to 5c on Ingrains, which are now said to be cheaper here than in England.

The monthly crop report gave little help to speculation. Wheat has been 1¼c higher, and corn 1½c, with moderate sales, but corn is 2¾c lower. Cotton is unchanged, receipts being still beyond those of the same week last year. Pork products are slightly stronger. Exports of domestic products continue unchecked and for the last week were 44 per cent more than for the first week of December last year.

The business failures throughout the country during the last seven days number 320, as compared with a total of 390 last week. For the corresponding week of last year the figures were 374.

THE CROP RETURNS FOR DECEMBER

A General Decline in the Price of Cotton is Noticeable.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—The crop returns of December to the department of Agriculture relate to average prices on plantations. The complaint of unremunerative values is general. The plantation price, which is the actual rate for cotton sold at the gin, averages 7.3 cents per pound. For five years preceding the range was from 8.1 to 8.6, and averaged nearly 8.4 cents. This decline is echoed in the records of exportation which averaged in October a value of 9.9 cents, against 10.11 cents for October of last year, a drop of 12 per cent. The state averages are as follows: Virginia, 7 cents; North Carolina, 7.4; South Carolina, 7.4; Georgia, 7.4; Florida, 7.3; Alabama, 7.3; Mississippi, 7.3; Louisiana, 7.3; Texas, 7.0; Arkansas, 7.3; Tennessee, 7.3.

An unexampled season for harvesting is reported, with picking, ginning and marketing far advanced.

REVIEW OF THE WEEK'S BUSINESS.

OFFICE OF THE TOLEDO BLADE,
Wednesday, Dec. 16, 1891.

The following shows changes in Government bonds during the past week:

	Dec 15.	Dec. 8
U. S. 4's coupons	126½	127½
U. S. 4's registered	117¾	126½
U. S. 2's	100	100
Pac. 6's of '95	103½	103½

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—The weekly bank statement shows the following changes: Reserve, decrease.....$1,475,875
Loans, increase.....17,000
Specie, increase.....137,400
Legal tenders, increase.....2,013,100
Deposits, increase.....2,09-,500
Circulation, decrease.....8,500

The banks now hold $15,342,500 in excess of the 25 per cent rule.

Trade.

During the past week there has been a free movement of Christmas goods westward The general trade has been fair.

THE DAY ON WALL STREET.

Close of the Stock Market in New York This Afternoon.

3 p. m.—Money closed easy at 2 per cent. Bar silver 95½. The usual dullness marked the dealings in the stock market after 12 o'clock, but the best prices were well maintained among the leading shares, while utter stagnation prevailed in the rest of the list. Chicago Gas, Rock Island and New York Central maintained an active business, but the changes in neither was for more than small fractions, and the whole list remained without feature of interest except the moderate very weak o s in Richmond & West Point and Northern Pacific pfd, which resulted in only slight losses, however. The dullness became more marked toward 2 p. m., but later more animation was shown and many stocks showed fractional gains. Union Pacific was the feature rising on a largely increased business from 41¼ to 42. Rock Island and Northern Pacific pfd were still active, but failed to move more than insignificant fractions. The market closed quiet and firm to strong at or near the best prices.

	Opens.	High.	Low.	Close.
Atch	43¼	43¾	43¼	43⅝
A. C. O	29⅞	29⅞	29⅞	30
A. S. R	89½	89¾	88½	88¾
C. S	63⅞	64⅛	63⅝	63⅞
C. C. C	71	71¼	71	71
C. B. Q	105⅝	105⅞	105¼	105⅛
C. Gas	69¾	69¾	68¾	69⅛